FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 009 *13 January 1984*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

L.A. Economic Conference Opens in Quito A 1
Leaders, Representatives Arrive A 1
Dominican's Jorge Opens Conference A 1
Jamaica's Seaga Speaks A 4
Schwalb Presents Peru's Solution A 5
Briefs: Andean Pact Trade Balance A 5

ARGENTINA

President Alfonsin Holds Press Conference B 1
Judge Lifts Bignone's Incommunicado Status B 7
Uruguayan Minister Not Offered Ride to Quito B 8
CGT-Azopardo Delays Merger Negotiations Approval B 8

BOLIVIA

U.S. Pressure for Cabinet Reshuffle Denied C 1
Food Shortages Result in Street Blockades C 1
Foreign Minister Leaves for Quito Conference C 1
Air Force Communique on Information Policy C 1
MIR Leader Denies Involvement in Contraband Arms C 2
New Central Bank President Sworn In, Comments C 2
Briefs: Foreign Debt; 1983 Inflation Rate C 2

CHILE

Rights Activist Scores Antiterrorist Law E 1
Arrests Follow Building of Barricades of Fire E 1

PARAGUAY

HOY Cites Alleged Pressure From U.S. Embassy [12 Jan] H 1
Briefs: ABC COLOR Licenses Canceled H 1

PERU

Belaunde on Lusinchi Inaugural, University Law J 1
Lima Prefect: Activists Involved in Intrusions J 2
Briefs: New Zealand Ambassador; Agreements Signed With FRG; Air Force Commander General; Representative to ALADI J 2

URUGUAY

State Council Reorganization Set for 1 March K 1
Construction of Nuclear Reactor Being Analyzed K 1
Labor Unrest Continues; Bus Strike Called K 1
Opposition Weeklies in 'Permanent Mobilization' K 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Monge Temporarily Withdraws Neutrality Bill P 1
Social Christians Present Charges Against Fait P 1

EL SALVADOR

Magana Pleased With Kissinger Commission Report P 2
FMLN on Government Action Against Death Squads P 3
[Farabundo Marti]
Army Reportedly Destroys Guerrilla Redoubts P 4
[EL MUNDO 10 Jan]
Clashes, Casualties Reported P 4
Venceremos Recalls 1st Broadcast on Anniversary P 5
Farabundo Marti Sends Greetings P 6

GUATEMALA

Venceremos Reports EGP Action in Huehuetenango P 7

HONDURAS

Continuing Reportage on Downed U.S. Aircraft P 7
Troops Attack Sandinists P 7
Calm After Helicopter Downing P 8
Suazo Addresses Reagan P 9
Protest Note to Nicaragua P 9
Nicaraguan Envoy Recalled P 10
Army Denies Reported Clash With Sandinists P 10
[LA TRIBUNA 11 Jan]
EPS Reportedly Occupies 2 Schools in Border Area P 11
[LA TRIBUNA 11 Jan]
Protest to Nicaragua Over Attacks on Miskitos P 11
Government To Indemnify Foreigners for CBI P 12

NICARAGUA

Daniel Ortega on Helicopter, Kissinger Report P 12
Radio Sandino Views Kissinger Report on C.A. P 14
Kissinger Reportedly Requested Quainton Removal P 15
[EL NUEVO DIARIO 6 Jan]
Radio Sandino Ridicules Paz Barnica on Contadora P 15
Sergio Ramirez Analyzes Economic Situation P 16
Embassy in Honduras Surrounded for Protection P 17
Council Approves Political Parties Law Articles P 17
Philip Agee Visits State Production Unit P 17
[BARRICADA 5 Jan]
Defense, Foreign Ministries Report Clashes P 18
Commentary Criticizes Opposition Demonstration P 18
ARDE Proposes United Rebel 'Democratic Project' P 19
[Voice of Sandino]
ARDE Reports New Victory in Punta Gorda P 20
[Voice of Sandino]
Further Report [Voice of Sandino] P 21
ARDE Claims 3,080 EPS Casualties During 1983 P 21
Briefs: Housing Ministry Figures; Land Deed Distribution; P 22
Coffee Harvest Figures; Cuban Cane Cutters

CUBA

Initial Report on Downing of U.S. Helicopter Q 1
Television Commentary Q 1
Commentators Discuss Kissinger Commission Report Q 3
Reagan Reaction Noted Q 5
Spanish Paper Reports on Castro-Moran Talks [Madrid EL PAIS 8 Jan] Q 6
Fernandez, Marjai Sign Cooperation Accords Q 7
GRANMA Director Visits Bulgaria for Conference Q 7
Argentine Writer Warns of Fate of Missing Q 7
Latest Guerrilla Actions in El Salvador Reported Q 8
Nicaraguan Counterrevolutionaries Killed Q 8
Nicaragua Dislodges 600 'Contra' Invaders Q 8
Nicaragua Approves Articles of Parties Law Q 8
University Law Spurs Student Protest in Peru Q 9
Briefs: Women Leaders Meet Q 9

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRD's Pena Gomez Urges Jorge-Majluta Harmony R 1
[LISTIN DIARIO 7 Jan]

CARIBBEAN

GRENADA

Jailed Former Deputy Minister Issues Demands S 1
Enumeration for Elections Postponed Until March S 2
Government Removes Hundreds From Payroll S 2

JAMAICA

Pact With Dominican Republic To Be Finalized S 3

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Canada's Pepin Arrives for Talks With Chambers S 4

SURINAME

Strike Continues, Workers Demand New Government U 1
Troops Withdraw From Plant U 1
Suralco Closes Indefinitely U 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

BRAZIL

Delfin Group Liquidated, Assets Attached V 1

COLOMBIA

ELN Guerrillas Killed, Wounded in Hostage Rescue V 1

GUYANA

Merger of CNA, CHRONICLE Newspaper Announced V 1

PANAMA

Immolated Man To Be Declared National Martyr [LA PRENSA 12 Jan] V 2

L.A. ECONOMIC CONFERENCE OPENS IN QUITO

Leaders, Representatives Arrive

PA120528 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The summit phase of the Latin American Economic Conference starts tomorrow with a special ceremony at 1000 in the Legislative Palace. Ecuadoran President Oswaldo Hurtado will deliver the main speech, focusing on the grave crisis in this region and the need to establish a new international economic order by implementing specific mechanisms that will allow us to overcome this problem.

The continental meeting wil be attended by heads of state, vice presidents, foreign ministers, and delegates of the highest political level from Latin American and Caribbean governments. The following presidents have arrived in this capital: Colombian President Belisario Betancur, Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco, and Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga. They were welcomed with honors by President Oswaldo Hurtado at the airport terminal.

The following representatives have also arrived in Quito: Jorge Illueca, president of the UN General Assembly and vice president of Panama; Fernando Schwalb, prime minister of Peru; Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of Cuba; Dante Caputo, foreign minister of Argentina; Jose Ortiz Mercado, national defense minister of Bolivia; (Jorge Perrich), founder of ECLA; the secretary general of the OAS; and the foreign ministers of Uruguay, Mexico, and Panama.

According to the agenda, the Latin American presidents will participate in the inaugural meeting, and then they will hold bilateral talks with President Hurtado in 45-minute interviews that will take place at the government palace. Prior to that, the Ecuadoran president will host a lunch to honor the visiting presidents and representatives of the participating countries.

It has also been reported that while in Quito, President Belisario Betancur will host a breakfast for his counterparts.

Dominican's Jorge Opens Conference

PA130032 Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 1516 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Speech by Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco at the Latin American Economic Conference in Quito -- live]

[Excerpts] I have the deep satisfaction and honor to make the opening speech at this Latin American and Caribbean Economic Conference, because it was the Dominican Republic that began the preparatory work for the conference that begins today. I have the duty as well as the great pleasure to express above all the everlasting gratitude of our peoples and governments for the fortunate initiative of our worthy and distinguished host, President Oswaldo Hurtado Larrea, whose concern as a far-sighted statesman began the fruitful process that is culminating in this historic conference.

The course of events that preceded this conference is characterized especially by the Agreement of Santo Domingo, which emerged from the important meeting of representatives of heads of states and governments of Latin America and the Caribbean held in the Dominican Republic last August and which pledged the solidary political will of our peoples to struggle together against the onslaught of the greatest international economic crisis of the last 5 decades.

To make this conference a success, it is most important, in my opinion, to define its purpose and nature. Our intention is to recognize this historic conference as the starting point in the process conceived in the Agreement of Santo Domingo, a decisive step on the new path for hemispheric cooperation. This is the cardinal purpose that must guide our work and thoughts.

The reason for this important meeting in Quito is the economic crisis that is overwhelming the Latin American and Caribbean countries. It has been correctly stated, and is constantly being repeated, that this crisis has deeper roots than those that connect its present devastating effects to circumstances that have occurred in the world during the last decade. We believe that the origin of the present crisis dates back to the division of our continent, to the achievement of independence for our individual countries without adequate development plans, to the constant disequilibrium of our democratic institutions, to the absurd isolation of our peoples, to the lack of joint solutions directed at identifying our problems and implementing measures to eliminate them, to the rhetoric of many of our political leaders, to the inability to work together to advance in our own manner and according to a purely American spirit. Our present crises are compounded by crises in moral and conceptual values, which we must face with American ideas and solutions.

I declare with the full force of my convictions that there will be no peace in America unless there is political, social, and economic peace. [applause] In order to reach these goals, it is imperative that our peoples establish and strengthen their democratic institutions based on development and social justice.

The Dominican Republic is deeply committed to efforts to strengthen the regional agreements that will lead to shared goals. We are the only nonmember country of ALADI that has adhered to the Multilateral Payments Agreement and the Agreement of Santo Domingo, which function in the framework of this organization. We have also supported an agreement for the exchange of information on the experience of renegotiating the foreign debt.

We need a joint, firm, and vigorous regional position toward the multinational financial organizations in support of a proposal to expand the available resources and provide more flexible conditions for the lending of their resources. The financial requirements of our countries exceed their need to bring their balance of payments into line. Above all, there is the priority requirement of resources for development projects. In order to satisfy this requirement fully, the international credit organizations must maintain an adequate level of net disbursements in their role of promoters of economic development, and not as mere collectors of payments on their loans, as demonstrated by the projected trend of the World Bank to decrease credits and eliminate the net transfer of resources in coming years.

We must insist on the strengthening of organizations affiliated with the World Bank, especially the International Development Organization, which plays a decisive role in aid to the poorest countries. It is also necessary to establish a trust fund to finance an expanded program in the energy sector that will help to develop new sources of energy.

The Dominican Republic participates in the Venezuelan-Mexican agreement for energy cooperation known as the San Jose Agreement, which is perhaps the most innovative of the Third World's cooperation agreements. The Dominican Republic advocates the strengthening and improvement of this agreement so that it can serve as a model for other cooperation agreements and, by having a more permanent character, can facilitate the planning of energy development and promote interregional trade through agreements between other countries of Latin America and the Caribbean that have the capacity to contribute capital goods and services for this sector.

The subject of trade also requires our strongest effort. The countries of our region are facing serious structural balance-of-payments problems, which are aggravated by the protectionism of the industrialized countries. Consequently, the spirit of regional solidarity demands that our states give special treatment to intraregional imports by imposing restrictions on international trade. In the framework of the subregional integration agreements, we have established the goal of achieving common foreign tariffs. The Dominican Republic is firmly in agreement with this proposal to protect the products produced in the region.

The Dominican Republic considers it appropriate to adopt a joint Latin American position toward the extraregional governments and organizations in order to achieve the effective transfer of technology toward the region, a priority increase in the terms of regional exchange, and the utilization of its qualified human resources, as well as an intraregional process of technological transfer that would favor and strengthen the regional integration agreements.

There is great truth in what the Latin American international organizations have often repeated, that the international monetary system functions on the basis of symmetry: that is, that the extraction of the excess generated by the developing world in favor of the more developed countries through the deterioration of the terms of exchange; the policies of fiscal deficits, high interest rates, and protectionism; the exchange overvaluations of key currencies; and other similar systems are aggravated by the imposition of currency adjustments on our countries to correct the deficits caused by these phenomena, with the consequence that our countries have lower real incomes and higher impoverishment aggravated by the decreasing levels of international cooperation. Nevertheless, the developed countries, which are the principal causes of disequilibrium in the international economy, are not obliged to accept an equivalent adjustment.

This unequal treatment of imposing traumatic restrictions on those who have less and are weaker, while permitting full freedom of action for those who have the most, must be revised, because the international order must be based solely on the principle of equality.

This conference must draft the guidelines to establish new living conditions for the Latin American man. In our hands, at the beginning of this first Latin American economic conference, we hold a renewed hope for the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean. Thank you. [applause]

Jamaica's Seaga Speaks

PA130019 Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 1642 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Speech by Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga at the Latin American Economic Conference in Quito; Seaga speaks in English; simultaneous Spanish translation begins in progress as indicated -- live]

[Excerpts] It is our view that the declaration which will emerge from this historic conference should be confined to economic issues. It may, of course, infer that the successful resolution of these issues will have beneficial political consequences for the stability and security of the region, but we do not believe that we need be diverted into those considerations in this forum.

We are also all familiar with the fact that there has been a shift in external borrowing, from official and bilateral sources providing concessional assistance to commercial sources. International commercial banks have emerged over the past decade as the major source of development financing for the Latin American region as a whole, although there are certain exceptions. This source now accounts for more than 95 percent of Latin American external debts. Much of this lending is at variable interest rates, a practice that has increased the vulnerability of the countries of the region, the interest rate fluctuations in the Eurodollar market. [sentence as heard]

[Simultaneous Spanish translation begins; remainder of item translated from Spanish] It is clear that measures must be designed to ensure that the commercial banking system accepts a greater responsibility in maintaining the flow of international financing for the developing countries, without making drastic reductions in their loans when these countries are most in need of this financing. In this regard, the IMF and the World Bank have an important role to play, providing guidance and orientation and creating mechanisms that encourage the constant participation of the commercial banks to finance important productive programs.

We must find the necessary means to extend the loan deadlines. Jamaica strongly urges that we call on the international commercial banking system to maintain a predetermined loan level for the region instead of the current reduction [words indistinct]. We believe that the most practical move is the negotiation of significant moratorium periods and the extension of loan deadlines, converting the short-term loans into long- and medium-term loans.

Latin America and the Caribbean must promote a freer intraregional movement of goods while confronting the current massive imbalance of their foreign debts. Jamaica holds the view that we should agree on the way and [word indistinct] the means to encourage the expansion and liberalization of intraregional trade. In this regard, we would like to introduce several proposals. First, before the year's end, we should establish a general system of preferential tariffs for Latin America and the Caribbean which would be applicable to all countries in the region, in the range of 15 to 20 percent [no base figure or reference], with the most favorable rates for those countries outside the region with nonreciprocal preferences in favor of the Central American and Caribbean countries. Second, we propose the reduction and elimination of other barriers that prevent the implementation of regional preferential tariffs. Finally, we propose the establishment under SELA of a permanent commission for intraregional commercial preferences, which would control the activities of (?the zone).

Schwalb Presents Peru's Solution

PA130131 Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Speech by Peruvian Prime Minister Fernando Schwalb at the Latin American Economic Conference in Quito -- live]

[Excerpt] Peru believes that the elements indispensable to finding a solution would include the following:

A. The reduction of real interest rates to reasonable levels, for their current magnitude is unprecedented. In order for this reduction to be possible, a coherent effort is needed in the economic policy of those countries where capital originates, particularly in our great (?northern neighbor).

B. The number of aid and soft-financing groups in the most developed countries should be increased. We believe that an international financial operation is not solely a philanthropic action, but rather a duty of solidarity and an intelligent stand for reciprocal benefit.

C. It is also necessary for the industrialized countries to suppress the trade barriers that make it impossible to step up our exports and maintain our traditional markets. If those countries close their doors to our products, they are also closing the doors to their own exports, since the developing world can buy goods from the industrialized countries only with income from sales of their own products.

Also, it is necessary to intensify intraregional trade in Latin America and the Caribbean by mutually opening markets through bilateral and multilateral agreements, and certainly by sponsoring the improvement and advancement of the processes of integration. Within the framework of this realistic prospect, one cannot ignore the importance -- as a complement of internal investments -- of foreign risk capital, that is, direct foreign investment, which would be motivated by a promotional spirit rather than by a desire for excessive profit.

In this regard, the incentives given to internal savings, as an indispensable ingredient in the formation of capital, are the best way to avoid unsuitable dependence derived from either direct foreign investment or external financing, which is not counterbalanced by national savings.

BRIEFS

ANDEAN PACT TRADE BALANCE -- Lima, 16 Nov (EFE) -- The Andean Pact has reported that its balance of trade had a surplus of $3.771 billion at the end of the first half of 1983 as compared to $1.962 billion during the same period in 1982. During this period, exports amounted to $11.766 billion and imports to $7.995 billion. The balances of trade of Bolivia, Ecuador, and Venezuela had surpluses of $193 million, $510 million, and $4.9 billion, respectively, while Colombia had a deficit of $1.676 billion and Peru of $156 million. As regards exports, Venezuela exported products worth $7.7 billion, Peru $1.272 billion, Colombia $1.261 billion, Ecuador $1.161 billion, and Bolivia $372 million. At the same time, Venezuela imported products worth $2.8 billion, Colombia $2.937 billion, Peru $1.428 billion, Ecuador $651 million, and Bolivia $179 million. At the beginning of 1983 the Andean Pact's net international reserves amounted to $15.719 billion, and on 30 June they reached $14.815 billion. [Excerpts] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0915 GMT 16 Nov 83 PY]

PRESIDENT ALFONSIN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

PY122200 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish 1900 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Press conference given by President Raul Alfonsin from the White Hall of Government House in Buenos Aires -- live]

[Excerpts] [In progress] [Marcelo (Cancelmi) -- UPI] Over the last few weeks, the Beagle Channel dispute has gained particular significance. It has been reported that the dispute will be settled through an agreement to be signed with Chile in the next few months. Under the terms of this agreement, the islands in dispute will reportedly be turned over to Chile. The Argentine opposition has pointed out that the government headed by Augusto Pinochet might be strengthened if Argentina and Chile sign such an agreement. Mr President, I would like to ask you for your opinion on the matter. Could you give us some details on the agreement and the date on which it will be signed?

[Alfonsin] I cannot say whether we have already reached a definitive agreement. But since the two sides have reduced the area of their differences, the mediator thinks that the time has come to begin what he has called the conclusive stage of the talks. To this end, the foreign ministers of the two countries will possibly meet on 23 January 1984 to begin direct talks on the different aspects of the treaty that will be later submitted to Congress. These direct talks will be held with the help of the mediator. As for the characteristics of the treaty, I will just tell you that it will not reflect the will of individual groups. It will seek to achieve everything that can be achieved and that can be actually advantageous for the interests of our country and of our people. This will allow us to work for the consolidation of peace in Latin America, thus putting an end to arms races that are actually immoral in countries in which we have not yet overcome the problem of starvation, and to implement a comprehensive solution that should also encompass the economy. This way, we shall be working from the Southern Cone for Latin American integration.

[Eugenio (Paillet) -- NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS] Mr President, will possible budget cuts in defense spending be influenced by the agreement to be signed with Chile, under the terms of which Argentina will turn Picton, Lennon, and Nueva Islands over to Chile, and by the possibility of formally declaring an end to hostilities as Great Britain demands as a precondition for the resumption of negotiations?

[Alfonsin] Well, you are talking about two different issues, correct? The Malvinas issue is not the Beagle issue. As for the Malvinas issue, I should say that I believe that the statement by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the possibility of putting an end to the exclusion zone is a step forward. We also read a significant statement by the British defense minister in today's papers. He said that it might be inappropriate to continue with the military buildup on the Islands. We attach great importance to these two developments. If things are actually like that, I believe that this might be the time to begin talks at the United Nations to see if we can achieve an objective that our government has set for itself, namely, to revert the current Malvinas Islands situation to the conditions that prevailed before the war. This will be our starting point in our efforts to obtain recognition of our rights. I believe that resolving the hypothetical conflicts in which our country might become engaged will necessarily lead to defense spending cuts.

[Juan Araya -- AFP] Human rights organizations have harshly criticized the amendment to the military code because it allegedly implies a virtual amnesty for officers charged with torture and murder. To what extent can those officers invoke the principles of obedience to orders and unavoidable error that the amended code sets forth?

[Alfonsin] No one can seriously level such a charge. People have even said, as you pointed out, that we have extended the jurisdiction of military courts by allowing them to pass judgment on actions that occurred in the past. As is well known, military courts were created a long time ago, when the national legal system was established. They have operated under the current code since 1951. Accepted as they are by Supreme Court jurisprudence, military courts are entitled to pass judgment on crimes committed by military men in military zones or in connection with the discharging of their duties.

For the first time in our country, this system has been the target of two kinds of attack. In the first place, as far as future action is concerned, however, from now on, military courts will no longer pass judgment on common crimes, as they have thus far. As for the past, a legal proceeding with a broad scope by which cases can be brought to lower and higher civilian courts has been established. This is exactly what we promised during our electoral campaign. It is also in line with the commitment we assumed in our electoral platform with the Argentine people. Argentine history registers no antecedents of a similar significant advance in the preservation of justice in our country. Even more, I want to say to you that not only have we done this, but we have also submitted other draft bills to Congress. I can cite measures like the revision of the cases heard by military courts, granting those who were sentenced the right to appeal to civilian courts and to file the corresponding writ of habeas corpus. I can also cite the bill that we submitted to Congress and that we called the law for the defense of the Constitution, in which we classified the old crime of rebellion as a crime against the Constitution, extending terms of punishment accordingly. This law will defend Argentine society from the scourge of subversion. I can also cite what we have done to prevent and punish torture, which will receive the same punishment as murder. From several standpoints, this bill has placed Argentina in the forefront in this area. We have enacted several measures and, at the same time, we remain firm in our decision to respect the law. Had we not acted in this manner our actions might have been considered in violation of article 18 of the Constitution. And we would have done so if we had placed the military under the jurisdiction of magistrates other than its regular judges. This is the position of the government on this matter. This decision also attests to our efforts to defend human rights in our country.

[(Claudio Polozetti) -- DYN] During the election campaign, the [UCR -- Radical Civic Union] party platform noted that the struggle against inflation, and consequently against the government deficit, was a priority. I would like to know what specific measures the government is enforcing to reduce the government apparatus and, specifically, what will happen to television channels and other companies that are illegally in the hands of the government at the present time.

[Alfonsin] We are struggling against the government deficit. You are right, it is imperative for us to eradicate inflation. We have established difficult goals, but we believe that we will achieve them. As we have said, we will eradicate inflation, we have committed ourselves to increasing the real salaries and to achieving economic growth.

Regarding inflation, this basically means ending the government deficit, which by the last third of 1983 totaled 14 percent of the GNP.

Of this percentage, 10 percent pertained to issuing money, that is, there was not even the possibility of relying on necessary credits, not only for the government but also for the private sector.

Therefore, it is one of the objectives of the government to end, to the extent possible, this enormous deficit. Moreover, it is our goal to achieve a 4 percent deficit of the GNP within 1 year. This means that on the one hand we must increase tax collection, not only through the implementation of new taxes, but also by combating tax evasion which has reached shocking proportions, particularly regarding the value added tax and the income tax.

But I must add in this regard that according to studies the tax burden in Argentina at this time ranges from 15 to 17 percent of the GNP. This is the lowest tax burden in the last 20 years. Therefore, on the other hand we also have a very low GNP. This gives an idea of the seriousness of the situation we are confronting.

Of course you are also referring to the other aspect, that is, on one hand we have to increase resources, while on the other, we have to decrease expenses.

In this regard I must note that we cannot think of implementing any spectacular measures since it would be absurd to think that we can decrease expenses spectacularly. This is an adjustment process in which the government apparatus must be put in order. The only way to achieve spectacular results would be to cause massive layoffs or to decrease salaries. But the executive branch is unwilling to resort to either of these two options.

There is also a certain lack of flexibility regarding the decrease of government expenses, because although it may be true that we can decrease expenses in some sectors, it is imperative to increase expenses in other sectors, such as education and health, for example. At any rate this is also important for the economy since a better adjustment of expenses, a better allotment of government resources, will undoubtedly allow us to give a better drive to the economy.

Regarding the television issue, I must note that we are studying it. Just as we said in our platform, television channels, with the exception of ATC [Argentina Televisora Color] and perhaps one other channel, which will be a non-governmental enterprise for cultural purposes, will be handed over to the private sector.

[Robert Powell -- REUTER] What is your view on the Kissinger report on Central America and particularly, on his recommendation that the United States should grant more aid to the so-called counter-revolutionaries in Nicaragua.

[Alfonsin] I have very little information about that, only what the newspapers reported today. I cannot give a detailed opinion on the question, but I fear that one of the members of the commission, Mr Diaz Alejandro, may be correct in his thinking. In my view he sees quite correctly what the central point is: That Latin America can readily place its products in the U.S. market.

[Bernardo Gonzales -- SAPORITI PRESS AGENCY] Mr President, in view of the current problems in the American Continent, what is the Argentine Government's position regarding Latin America and the United States, and what can be done to improve our image?

[Alfonsin] We are committed to working in favor of Latin American integration. We understand that Argentina, without any intention of leading anybody, can be an important participant in the task which must be carried out by all the Latin Americans, who must realize definitively that only by working together can we be more effective than we have been so far in seeking a new international economic order. We must also work to keep our continent from becoming something of a battle ground for the two superpowers, as well as not to raise, affirm, and wave banners which are not our own. We have to work to assert our rights in the way in which I am saying. We are discriminated against by the North in the area of foreign trade, and we can be discriminated against because we have not paid attention to the possibilities of working together through the purchasing power which Latin America may have, and the power and strength of its exports, too. So this is a commitment Argentina has with its brother Latin American countries. Particularly in regard to Central America and in regard to all the countries in general, we assert with strength and vigor the principle of self-determination of peoples, and the principle of nonintervention. And, of course, we hope that people who have struggled to overcome feudal structures which kept them under slavery for many years can find the formulas to attain solutions in a context of freedom and democratic pluralism.

[John Simpson -- BBC] Mr President, I apologize for not asking my question in Spanish but in English. In your message to the British prime minister last month, you used the English expression: Where there is a will there is a way. And you spoke about your hopes for an improvement in relations between our two countries. Do you think that will now exists between our two countries, and how might the relationship be improved exactly?

[Alfonsin] I believe, sir, as I said recently, that the explanations or remarks made by Mrs Thatcher that the exclusion zone could be ended are very important steps forward. The remarks made by the defense minister are also very important, when he said that it was even a problem for NATO, that the fortification of the Malvinas Islands poses a problem for Great Britain in fulfilling its obligations with NATO. This changes, of course, considerably prior declarations which assumed that the Malvinas Islands could even be important for NATO, for the Atlantic Alliance, for the North Atlantic, for the NATO, not for the SATO [South Atlantic Treaty Organization]. I believe this was serious, very serious, because it was not only serious for Argentina but also for Latin America, as it could generally create difficult problems in the South Atlantic. Therefore I believe this is also a very important step forward and perhaps, as I said, we have the possibility of beginning negotiations within the UN framework.

[(Susana Garcia) -- Radio Continental] Mr President, the executive branch has created a commission to define the Argentine nuclear program. Beyond this, I would like to know if Argentine nuclear policy will continue in the same direction as it has in the last few years, and in this regard, your opinion about the Vienna and Tlatelolco Treaties.

[Alfonsin] Argentina has successfully carried out a nuclear research program for peaceful use. In this regard our government will continue, naturally, this basic policy. Regarding the nonproliferation treaty, our government has not considered its ratification because it is regarded as discriminatory. Regarding Tlatelolco, Argentina signed this treaty in 1967. We are studying different possibilities. Regarding safeguards, we would be more inclined toward policies linked to our neighboring countries of Latin America, the possibilities of reciprocal inspections.

[Isidoro Gilbert -- TASS] Mr President, in your message to Congress you expresaed concern about the international situation. Now, 1 month later, do you believe that this situation has worsened? Second question: What role can Argentina play with other Latin American countries to allow an atmosphere of detente and disarmament to prevail on the international level?

[Alfonsin] Unfortunately the answer is affirmative in the sense that I believe that the situation has worsened. Likewise unfortunately, the optimism that we all felt at one time after Helsinki regarding the possibility of a long period of peace through disarmament and detente has come to an end. The Argentine Government is willing to work in accordance with its possibilities in any field with the purpose of cooperating with those who believe that we must put an end to the arms race which threatens humanity, which is leading us to a very serious situation of conflict. Therefore, we are willing to do whatever is necessary.

[Juan Angel del Bono -- LA VOZ] Mr President, we want to know whether the national government has received in any manner or from any sector pressures to keep military officers who committed excesses in repressing terrorism from being prosecuted with maximum severity.

[Alfonsin] We are going to act within legal boundaries, in accordance with justice. Our government is not inclined to accept pressure of any kind to that effect.

[(Jon Jengu) -- XINHUA] Mr President, you have pointed out in your presidential message the necessity of not placing the Central American conflict in the context of East-West confrontation. In your view, how can that be done? If you allow me, I have another question. Do you have any plan on relations with Asia, including perhaps a visit to the Far East? Thank you.

[Alfonsin] You are welcome, sir. We are convinced that the world has to be seen in a different light, not simply in that of the East-West conflict. We prefer to see the world in the light of North-South problems. This means that we can find modes of action, not to solve the problems as you said, but so that countries which are associated in the Contadora Group may be able to find solutions that are not necessarily in line with the interests of the major powers which might yet -- why not -- be convinced of the need to act in a different way. As for Asia, as you understand and know, we are one of the nonaligned countries which are headed by Indira Gandhi, the prime minister of India. We are convinced that we can work with this group of countries to have a permanent association, as well as with other Asian countries. We are well aware of the need to improve and to increase our trade relations with the Asian countries, and to that end, we are already working not only at the Foreign Ministry, but also at the Commerce Secretariat.

[(Klaus Arfel) -- ZVF Television FRG] Mr President, how do relations between the new government and the Armed Forces stand? You have taken a number of drastic measures. Have they met resistance?

[Alfonsin] Sir, we do not have government-Armed Forces relations. The Armed Forces are part of the government, because I am the commander in chief of the Armed Forces. The attitude of the men in the Armed Forces is the best that it can be in carrying on this process of democratization, as is their willingness to make the efforts that should be necessary to overcome the country's economic problems.

It is so because they understand that only on the basis of a healthy, educated, developing country can we ensure our defense, can we defend our interests and sovereignty as we must.

[Roberto Maidana -- ATC] Mr President, regarding the mission currently being carried out by your economy minister in the United States, a mission which has been said to be of an exploratory nature, and considering your government's repeated assertions that the international financial obligations will be met without any detriment to our sovereignty or to anything related to it, has he conveyed to you any information about his mission?

[Alfonsin] Yes, sir. We have contended that the democratization of Argentina would represent an extremely positive step in the eyes of other countries in the world when it came to considering the foreign debt. Our contention is proving to be true. Our positions are being understood. And we are going to make it clear that we are going to pay back the legitimate debt, that we are going to pay its corresponding interest, but that we will not accept recessionary prescriptions. I believe that the world's democracies will understand the Argentine situation. We do not expect the people of the creditor countries to pay our debts, but it should also be understood that our people have not benefitted from the contracted debts. Contracting these debts was pure madness because, had we taken advantage of favorable balances of payments and international circumstances, Argentina would at this time have been a world creditor on the order of $10 billion, even if the previous policy had been continued. Instead we find ourselves today being debtors to the tune of $45 billion. We have to pay this debt as is appropriate, I say, but on the basis of our exports. So it is not just an issue of refinancing, of finding stopgap solutions. The issue is that Argentina and Latin America should not be permanently indebted. The issue calls for changing the rules of the world's economy and of international trade. And in this regard, although we harbor no illusions about changing the philosophy of the Common Market and the markets of the North, we do believe that we will find channels to sell our production.

[(Alberto Perrone) -- SIETE DIAS] I would like to ask two questions. How were you impressed by the fact that the person who was in charge of the government not more than 30 days ago is now under arrest on charges of serious crimes? The second question is: Do you not believe that it would have been more appropriate for an Argentine constitutional government to wait for the establishment of a constitutional government in Chile to reach a lasting agreement on the Beagle issue?

[Alfonsin] Regarding the first question, of course, I would have liked not to have such a thing happen but I greatly respect judicial decisions. Regarding the second question, my answer is negative. We must resolve the problem with Chile as soon as possible.

[Rodolfo Lambert -- NEUE ZURCHER ZEITUNG] Mr President, I would like to ask the following: After a 2 month absence from the country, one feels not only the sun of democracy but also an avalanche of hatred. I believe this hatred is more concentrated against the military repression of subversion than against subversive actions carried out by the Triple A, or by terrorist organizations such as Montoneros, or ERP [People's Revolutionary Army]. Are you also aware of this problem, and are you concerned about this imbalance that I am witnessing?

[Alfonsin] Sir, I believe that the government has acted fairly on this issue and that it has acted in keeping with campaign promises regarding the need for establishing the three degrees of responsibilities within the Armed Forces, that is: first, those who planned, issued the orders, and took the political decision to undertake the action; second, those who acted cruelly and committed excesses in carrying out their orders; and third, those who in view of extremely confusing situations, may have judged wrongly the legitimacy of the orders they received.

We have said this throughout the country. We have said this in hundreds of speeches, in press conferences, and in a conference I held at the Assembly of the Permanent Human Rights Commission. We are acting in keeping with what we said.

But at the same time, throughout the entire campaign, as throughout our life, we have expressed our repudiation of all violence. Therefore, we have undertaken the proper investigation of the actions of subversive leaders.

Moreover, we have submitted a draft bill to Congress to establish a package of measures which, within the framework of the due process of law, will strive to protect Argentine society from a new upsurge of this true scourge of society, but I hope God will spare us from it.

I believe that the present atmosphere we are experiencing is something that saddens us all. Neither the executive branch, nor the government, nor any government sector has had any involvement in promoting these feelings. The press however carries reports on it since it is an issue that concerns the people. Perhaps the horror we are experiencing will help us to learn a lesson and in the future all of us will struggle against all forms of violence from wherever it may come. We believe that we will continue to experience a difficult period in Argentina in this regard, but that as time passes and to the extent that the law is enforced, hatred will diminish, and all Argentines will undertake the path of national reconciliation.

[Jose Lester -- LA TRIBUNA] Mr President, I would like to ask you two brief questions. The first is what plans do you have to strengthen cultural, political, and economic ties between Argentina and Brazil?

[Alfonsin] I believe, sir, that we have to leave aside competitive attitudes and that we should strive to achieve a common goal. Argentina and Brazil should undertake a common path to achieve the development and the integration of Latin America.

We are aware that Brazil is already involved in a democratization process, and we believe that bilateral cooperation can be very important in achieving Latin American integration and also in seeking a formula that will allow us to defend our interests in those problems that sometimes arise with the Northern Hemisphere. We also have the possibility of undertaking joint actions in other strategic fields that can result in mutual benefit for our two nations.

JUDGE LIFTS BIGNONE'S INCOMMUNICADO STATUS

PY121448 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Trial Judge Oliveri has lifted former de facto President Reynaldo Bignone's incommunicado status, but has ordered his continued detention in Campo de Mayo. Bignone appeared in court again yesterday to testify in the case of the disappearance of two corporals under his command when he was director of the War College.

URUGUYAN MINISTER NOT OFFERED RIDE TO QUITO

PY121047 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1532 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 11 Jan (DYN) -- An apparently irrelevant episode, which diplomatic observers view as quite significant, may have demonstrated this morning that Argentine-Uruguayan relations are not the best at this time.

Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and his Uruguayan counterpart Carlos Maesso departed -- a few minutes apart -- from Ezeiza Airport for Quito where they will attend the Latin American economic conference. According to observers, the fact that the two ministers flew separately is worth noting, because the normal attitude of the Argentine foreign minister would have been to invite his Uruguayan colleague to fly with him.

However, Minister Caputo boarded a T 01 plane of the Argentine Air Force at 0630 [0930 GMT], while Minister Maesso was left waiting for Aerolineas Argentinas Flight 736 to Guayaquil where he would have to change planes to go to Quito. Minister Maesso had already arrived at Ezeiza Airport 30 minutes earlier in a Uruguayan military plane.

CGT-AZOPARDO DELAYS MERGER NEGOTIATIONS APPROVAL

PY121303 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2316 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Jan (NA) -- The CGT-Azopardo [General Confederation of Labor-Azopardo] has postponed until next Friday approval of the negotiations to unite the two confederations because of an internal crisis prompted by disagreements over the way in which the negotiations were conducted.

It has been learned that several CGT-Azopardo leaders have reportedly disapproved of Jorge Triacca's performance and have asked him to submit a detailed report on his actions. Jorge Triacca was the only CGT-Azopardo secretary general who participated in the negotiations.

U.S. PRESSURE FOR CABINET RESHUFFLE DENIED

PY130118 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Benjamin Miguel Harb, minister secretary of the presidency, has reported that the chief of state continues to work on the reorganization of his cabinet. He also indicated that despite the absence of some ministers, the activities in the ministries are continuing as usual.

Miguel rejected reports of alleged U.S. pressures for the formation of a new cabinet. He said: The president does not accept pressure from anyone. He is reorganizing the cabinet in accordance with the real needs of the country.

Benjamin Miguel Harb added that the president is continuing to work on the reorganization of his cabinet and that the new cabinet may be sworn in tomorrow, Friday.

FOOD SHORTAGES RESULT IN STREET BLOCKADES

PY122355 Paris AFP in Spanish 1618 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] La Paz, 12 Jan (AFP) -- Due to food shortages and the growing reduction in urban transport services, the La Paz Federation of Neighborhood Committees has decided to blockade streets, avenues, and highways in the Bolivian capital.

These measures, which on previous occasions paralyzed La Paz, will go into effect late today. The blockade will take place at 17 strategic traffic points.

One committee member said that the food shortage in the Bolivian capital is alarming, that the long lines to buy staples are growing daily, and that the transportation problems have not been solved.

The serious economic situation has deteriorated into a food shortage aggravated by a drought, in a traditionally agriculturally production area, which has caused a food deficit of $300 million.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR QUITO CONFERENCE

PY121243 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Bolivian Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado has left for Quito, Ecuador, where he will represent Bolivia at the meeting of the Economic Commission for Latin America, which will analyze the status of Latin America's foreign debt. Ortiz Mercado left for Ecuador with Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, who made a stopover at El Alto International Airport yesterday.

AIR FORCE COMMUNIQUE ON INFORMATION POLICY

PY121308 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The Bolivian Air Force [FAB] headquarters has issued the following communique:

With reference to the exaggerated press reports on the new composition of the Air Force command, in order to avoid misinterpretation, and in order that the media's good faith not be compromised, the FAB general command hereby states that the only person authorized to disclose official information is the FAB commander through his public information office.

It is also disclosed that the FAB general order of assignments is still being analyzed and will be submitted for consideration to the captain general of the Armed Forces and President of the Republic Hernan Siles Zuazo as soon as it is read.

MIR LEADER DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN CONTRABAND ARMS

PY121827 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The Executive Board of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR] has flatly dismissed the charges that the party is involved in contraband arms from the United States.

A document issued by MIR leader Oscar Eid Franco asserts that CARTA INFORMATIVA POLITICA, which has a limited circulation, is trying to implicate the Bolivian vice president in the crime of arms contraband. This information was released through CARTA INFORMATIVA POLITICA, issue No 9, which presents a new angle regarding the treatment of contraband arms in Bolivia.

NEW CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT SWORN IN, COMMENTS

PY121103 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpt] (Marcelo Salles Barriga), the new president of the Central Bank of Bolivia, has stated that in order to curb the inflation rate, which is suffocating the country, we must submit ourselves to a strict economic program and get rid of our fiscal deficit.

(Salles Barriga), who made this statement after being sworn in, stated that to prevent the devaluation of the Bolivian peso, it is necessary to curb inflation by increasing production and exports.

The new president of the Central Bank was sworn in by Finance Minister Fernando Baptista Gumucio during a ceremony held Tuesday afternoon at the Finance Ministry.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN DEBT -- La Paz, 8 Jan (AFP) -- According to a Finance Ministry report, Bolivia will have to pay $800 million in amortization and interest during 1984. This figure corresponds to the total amount of exports. The foreign debt exceeded $4.4 billion during 1983, out of which $350 million is unpaid overdue debts. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1545 GMT 8 Jan 84 PY]

1983 INFLATION RATE -- La Paz, 7 Jan (AFP) -- It was reported today that the 1983 inflation rate totaled 320 percent, which is twice the amount predicted by the government. The 1982 inflation rate reached 286 percent, and the government had predicted 150 percent during 1983. It was also reported that the consumer price index increased by 400 percent between October 1982 and December 1983 as compared to the 216-percent increase reported by the Central Bank during the same period. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1612 GMT 7 Jan 84 PY]

RIGHTS ACTIVIST SCORES ANTITERRORIST LAW

PY130200 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Lawyer Jaime Castillo, the president of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, has stated that an antiterrorist law is valid in a democracy, but if it is implemented in a dictatorship it will be another form of discrimination.

Castillo condemned all terrorist actions. He said that terrorism is a cruel and inhuman crime that must be punished like any other common crime. But he said that as a member of the Human Rights Commission he must note that no matter the crime a person has committed, he has the right to defend himself. He added: This is the position upheld by the Human Rights Commission in this regard, and this is why the government is trying to make us appear accomplices of terrorist actions.

Castillo added that if there are an unusual number of terrorist actions, the implementation of special legislation is logical, but he warned that an antiterrorist law is not applicable in a dictatorship and that is the case in Chile.

An antiterrorist law can be implemented in a democratic structure, that is, where citizens and authorities have the moral stature to enforce it.

Castillo noted cases of human rights violations, such as tortures, arrests, missing persons, and uninvestigated cases such as those of Orlando Letelier and Tucapel Jimenez, among others.

Castillo added that the Chilean Government can resort to sufficient means and methods to combat terrorism. As examples he mentioned a secret police force with full technical equipment, Article No 5, the Internal Security Law, the enforcement of exceptionary laws, exiling persons, the power to arrest persons and to hold them incommunicado for 20 days, secret jails, and so forth.

Castillo also urged all national sectors to cease all forms of violence and terrorism which is cruel, inhuman, and cowardly.

He admonished all those who resort to terrorism as a political method and those who resort to inhuman and cruel methods to pressure political adversaries. He said that the government uses terrorism as an excuse to implement a controversial policy and not to combat violence.

ARRESTS FOLLOW BUILDING OF BARRICADES OF FIRE

PY121329 Paris AFP in Spanish 0325 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 11 Jan (AFP) -- Last night the Carabinero paramilitary police arrested many people who were stirring up disorder and building barricades of fire in the Hermida neighborhood in Santiago. Police sources disclosed that the (?riots) were promoted by persons who incited the inhabitants of camps to attack the members of the security forces. The semiofficial press agency ORBE pointed out that during the incidents the demonstrators stoned vehicles and halted traffic by building barricades of fire in various areas.

HOY CITES ALLEGED PRESSURE FROM U.S. EMBASSY

PY121240 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 12 Jan 84 p 9

[From "Between the Lines" column: "Made in USA"]

[Text] According to rumors in local political circles, the U.S. Embassy will try to exert some kind of pressure to achieve a broader political opening. According to rumors, the visit paid to the embassy by Authentic Radical Liberal leader Hermes Saguier, where he met with embassy Counselor Ford Cooper -- a meeting reportedly proposed by the embassy -- and the talk that Ambassador Arthur Davis will give to the Radical Liberal Party in a few days will form part of the same action. The rumors naturally have not been officially confirmed because, even if they were true -- this column reports them only as rumors -- nobody will repeat them even though they are what a political year like 1984 might demand in the United States, where presidential elections are at stake.

BRIEFS

ABC COLOR LICENSES CANCELED -- In a note dated 4 January 1984, the radio communications and frequency administration department of ANTELCO [National Administration for Telecommunications] has conveyed to the newspaper ABC COLOR its decision not to renew the licenses of ABC COLOR radio stations ZPV2402, ZPV2403, ZPV2404, ZPV2405, ZPV2406 and ZPV2407, which were used to establish communication with its mobile units. ANTELCO did not account for the reasons for the measure. [Summary] [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 7 Jan 83 p 11 PY]

BELAUNDE ON LUSINCHI INAUGURAL, UNIVERSITY LAW

PY121800 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] On the afternoon of 11 January President Fernando Belaunde Terry went to Second Vice President Javier Alva Orlandini's home, where he met with high-ranking government officials for a working luncheon.

Belaunde announced that Alva Orlandini will head the Peruvian delegation to the presidential inauguration in Venezuela. Here are Belaunde's comments:

[Begin recording] [Belaunde] I have come here many times over the years. Javier [Alva Orlandini] will head the Peruvian delegation to the presidential inauguration in Venezuela on 2 February. Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend, but I shall be very well represented by Alva and other citizens.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr President, what can you tell us about the changes in the ministry's resolution which took for granted the resignation of...

[Belaunde] No. This is simply a case... many things are being signed every day and the existence of a written statement is being looked into. Since the written statement was not found, such a resolution was abrogated.

[Reporter] Mr President, the possibility of a coup d'etat is being mentioned; what can you tell us about this?

[Belaunde] There is no such thing. As you can see yourselves, all is quiet. There are a few protests, like the one held this morning by the students because of the university law. One cannot always please everyone. I promulgated this law, without being 100-percent satisfied myself. But I agree with the university law 90 percent. However, everyone has something to say, something to object to. But democracy has to be a system of mutual concessions and a lot of tolerance.

[Reporter] Mr Belaunde, what is the Peruvian proposal for the Quito conference?

[Belaunde] Essentially we concur that a common front be set up to handle Third World demands for more equitable exchange terms. As everyone knows, the prices for manufactured goods rise and prices for raw materials rise or don't rise, and when they do, they do so very slowly. Therefore, every year there is a gap which hurts the undeveloped countries. Thus, we will make an effort to speak with one voice so we may be heard by the proper sectors of the industrialized countries, and we expect them to be receptive to our problems so that (?relations) improve.

[Reporter] Mr President, it is being said that the IMF demands will be met and that a 20-percent devaluation is to take place.

[Belaunde] This is inaccurate; not at all. There will be no devaluation...

[Reporter] [passage indistinct]

[Belaunde] The mini-devaluation system will continue to be implemented. There will be no sudden devaluations.

[Reporter] Thank you; thank you very much. [end recording]

LIMA PREFECT: ACTIVISTS INVOLVED IN INTRUSIONS

PY121447 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] In an interview with the ANDINAS news agency Lima Prefect Arturo Arrarte Congrains said that the authorities have proven the participation of leftwing political activists in the recent private property intrusions. He added that this is a maneuver concocted by the evil leftwing.

Arrarte Congrains said that clear political connivance was noted as strings were being pulled from the center of influential worker and student organizations, which are being pushed into creating situations of conflict. He also revealed that the police have discovered that the agitators had planned to disrupt public order during the week marking the 449th anniversary of Lima's founding. Arrarte Congrains said that a perfectly organized plan was uncovered, a plan that involved the mobilization of organizations such as the Federation of Peruvian Students and labor unions that are members of the Confederation of Peruvian Workers.

BRIEFS

NEW ZEALAND AMBASSADOR -- Lima, 10 Jan (AFP) -- Today during a ceremony held at Government Palace President Fernando Belaunde Terry received the credentials of the newly appointed New Zealand ambassador, Peter Robert Bennett. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0218 GMT 11 Jan 84 PY]

AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH FRG -- Peruvian Foreign Affairs and Prime Minister Fernando Schwalb Lopez Aldana and the FRG ambassador to Peru, Hans-Joachim Hille, signed four agreements on 9 January for technical-financial cooperation. The FRG Government will grant Peru a DM25.5-million loan for the promotion and construction of low-cost housing and several sanitation projects. [Excerpt] [Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0718 GMT 10 Jan 84 PY]

AIR FORCE COMMANDER GENERAL -- Lieutenant General Cesar Enrico Praeli was installed yesterday as the new Air Force commander general. The ceremony was held in the main square of the Las Palmas Air Force officers school at noon yesterday. [Summary] [Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 3 Jan 84 p 6 PY]

REPRESENTATIVE TO ALADI -- Ambassador Raul Pinto Alvarez traveled to Montevideo today to assume his position as permanent Peruvian representative to ALADI [Latin American Integration Association]. [Text] [Lima Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0722 GMT 10 Jan 84 PY]

STATE COUNCIL REORGANIZATION SET FOR 1 MARCH

PY122247 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] A reorganization within the State Council will take place as of 1 March. It has been announced that legislator (Antonio Gavicho Barrios) will allegedly be given a high post in the State Insurance Bank, while (Carlos Gell) will be appointed director general of tourism. As a consequence of these changes, the current director of tourism will be appointed ambassador to Gabon.

CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR REACTOR BEING ANALYZED

PY121937 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The possibility of building a nuclear reactor in Uruguay is being analyzed. In principle the reactor would be used for the production of radio isotopes. A specially appointed commission in charge of drawing up a detailed report has been working on the subject.

LABOR UNREST CONTINUES; BUS STRIKE CALLED

PY122245 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Despite negotiations, a sector of the Uruguayan Bus Company, Inc [CUTCSA], has recently confirmed that a strike will begin at 1700. This afternoon, once the strike has started, the CUTCSA will provide an emergency service, according to CUTCSA director Pedro Lagos. He added that the increase in bus fares is being awaited in order to grant salary increases in this sector.

[Begin recording] [Lagos] Well, we have unofficial information that one of the CUTCSA unions has some measures in mind. Concretely, the measure which we have learned about unofficially is that there will be a strike from 1700 to 2400 today.

[Unidentified reporter] How many people do you believe will take part in this strike?

[Lagos] Well, the sector which is now busy is the terminal workers. At the time the strike is scheduled, the terminal workers will all be on the job, but we are not certain whether this measure is supported by other CUTCSA unions which are authorized by the Ministry. Because we do not know what attitude these other sectors will adopt, it is difficult to say how many workers will observe this announced measure.

[Reporter] Do you think there will be no buses in Montevideo at the time of the stoppage?

[Lagos] It is difficult to say, but we can assert that we will try to provide, even if it is rather deficient, the traditional emergency service of our enterprise so that the people will not be caught by surprise at work, or, if they are already in town, find themselves unable to return home due to lack of transportation. Our enterprise has taken the necessary measure in order to, at least, provide an emergency service. [end recording]

The labor and social security minister, on his part, requested the workers to review their decision to strike this afternoon. Colonel Nestor Valentin stated that such an attitude represents a measure of force.

[Begin Valentin recording] One sector of the transportation because public transportation has two labor organizations, and this is one of them, demands a salary increase. They have stated that during the first months of 1983 they received a 10 percent salary increase and later an increase of 700 pesos, which is the same the executive branch decreed for public servants. They are now demanding an increase of approximately 40 percent. They have given a series of reasons for this request, which must be submitted for consideration to the CUTCSA and then be analyzed in depth as to how the increase of fares has been applied to the salary of the public transport employees.

In keeping with the guidelines of this ministry, we have asked them not to carry out their strike because we consider that strike a measure of force which is harmful to the people and by no means contributes to the integration of the two parties seeking a common solution. We have told them that we will invite CUTCSA to come with representatives of the two unions to the ministry to discuss these issues and to seek a prompt way of decreeing a salary increase. [end recording]

The labor and social security minister also met with a delegation of the fishing sector this morning.

[Begin Valentin recording] The problem of the fishing sector is very interesting and complex. They maintain, and we are going to analyze this with the material they are going to supply us, that certain aspects of the recently approved law allegedly violate the Constitution. From their point of view it is unconstitutional and inconsistent with the international treaties that the government has signed within the ILO framework. It is obvious that we must respect the Constitution and that we must also fulfill international treaties and agreements because that is in keeping with a state of law. We have agreed to analyze this jointly. They are going to point out what aspects of the law must be modified. We are going to analyze their point of view, and if we agree with the fishing sector we will promote an amendment. The second point is how the salary of the personnel on board the fishing vessels is established. [end recording]

OPPOSITION WEEKLIES IN 'PERMANENT MOBILIZATION'

PY121139 Paris AFP in Spanish 1655 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 11 Jan (AFP) -- The Uruguayan opposition weeklies, which have been subjected to strict censorship for 3 weeks, today declared a permanent mobilization because they are certain that their struggle for freedom of the press benefits the country.

At a press conference held in the law school, the directors of more than 10 publications opposing the military regime categorically rejected the censorship imposed by the authorities. They also promised to carry out joint actions to make the people aware of the situation and to defend freedom of the press, adding that they will request support and cooperation from political and social groups and from the people in general. The directors also scored the censorship measures adopted since Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez assumed power in 1981, adding that the regime has a record of violations against freedom of speech.

COSTA RICA

MONGE TEMPORARILY WITHDRAWS NEUTRALITY BILL

PA120523 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Before leaving for Quito this afternoon, President Luis Alberto Monge said that the bill on the constitutional amendment seeking the country's perpetual and active neutrality has been withdrawn by the executive branch.

When asked the reason for the withdrawal, Monge said that several supporters withdrew, and he received a clear indication that the bill on the neutrality matter would be used to block other matters that are of immediate interest to the country.

I am not impatient in any way. I am convinced that the bill on the constitutional amendment is good, and I did not want to unwittingly lend myself to this plan to use the bill to block other pieces of legislation, Monge said.

The president said the bill to include neutrality in the Constitution will be resubmitted to the Legislative Assembly when the conditions are appropriate and when it can be discussed without this obstacle, which arose at the last minute, because a long list of deputies asked to discuss the bill on the floor. This procedure is used in the legislative field to delay the discussion of a bill, but it also affects any other bill on the agenda.

According to regulations, the discussion of a constitutional amendment is moved to first place on the Assembly's agenda, which means that other matters are blocked.

SOCIAL CHRISTIANS PRESENT CHARGES AGAINST FAIT

PA121931 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpt] As had been announced by the Social Christian Union through Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, president of the Executive Committee, the party presented charges against Vice President Alberto Fait and Carlos Manuel Castillo, executive president of the Central Bank, to the Supreme Electral Tribunal yesterday afternoon for their participation in electoral-political activities.

The union adds that local papers provided ample coverage of these government official's participation in a meeting at the home of former president Jose Figueres, and clearly warns that electoral-political matters related to internal problems, candidacies, and other topics such as the so-called magic formula, [not further explained] were discussed, all within the National Liberation Party [PLN].

Vice President Alberto Fait cannot participate in any electoral-political activity, even if that activity is just a meeting with the president. Article 88 of the electoral law does not make provisions for any exceptions, Calderon Fournier told the Supreme Electoral Tribunal magistrates.

In Carlos Manuel Castillo's case, he said, Article 29 of the Organic Law of the National Banking System says that state bank board members cannot participate in electoral-political activities other than voting and conducting other duties stipulated by the law.

EL SALVADOR

MAGANA PLEASED WITH KISSINGER COMMISSION REPORT

PA121756 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1328 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] San Salvador, 12 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana today expressed great satisfaction over the report presented by the Kissinger commission today in Washington, particularly because it recommends a continuous U.S. policy toward Central America.

"It is really an extraordinary document, very analytical, and in general its recommendations are well-founded, President Magana told ACAN-EFE over the phone. He added that "most importantly, this document will make the U.S. people aware of the importance and gravity of the Central American problem."

The report, delivered today by the commission headed by the former U.S. secretary of state, recommended an immediate increase in U.S. military assistance to El Salvador ($400 million in 1984 and 1985, as recommended by the Pentagon), and a 5-year aid program of $24 billion for the entire region.

Magana said: "I think it has been clearly understood that even though the roots of the Central American problem may be internal, of a political, social, or economic nature, the participation of foreign countries -- with Cuba and Nicaragua in the middle, as we all know -- has contributed to the grave dimensions of the problem." Magana told ACAN-EFE that "this leads to the immediate conclusion that the situation threatens U.S. security, and thus the commission insisted on recommending urgent military assistance."

Magana added that "social and economic aspects were not overlooked, and for the first time the U.S. Government has received a recommendation of a continuous policy, a plan supporting economic development for a period of 5 to 6 years, making it possible for governments to plan their activities and implement their programs in a continuous manner, in order to achieve results."

In response to an ACAN-EFE inquiry about the terms for human rights certification mentioned by the Kissinger commission as a condition for receiving U.S. aid, Magana said that this obligation "has been expressed in different terms, and the report even mentioned periodic reports." He added: "However, in general the commission's evaluation of the Central American problem gives maximum priority to security and defense. I think this is a more realistic approach, since I do not think these reports will be as rigid as past ones."

Magana added: "I am not personally opposed to this certification, because I agree with its objectives. Moreover, I have tried to accomplish some of these objectives during my government, and I think we have made significant progress." "However, it does have its negative aspects, since many people regard this as an intervention in Salvadoran Government policy (by the United States), and each time the certification process neared, the guerrillas increased their activities," Magana said.

Regarding the military aid recommended by the Kissinger commission, which, as advised by the Pentagon, should be $400 million in 1984 and 1985, Magana said that this is a specific problem.

He added: "The important thing is not whether the $400 million will be enough for these 2 years, but whether we know that we can count on this amount for 2 years."

Magana stressed that the important aspect of this recommendation is its "continuity," which will enable the Salvadoran Army to plan its military operations to defeat the guerrillas.

President Magana praised the efforts of the members of the commission headed by Henry Kissinger, since "they represent various professional and social sectors and also belong to two different parties."

FMLN ON GOVERNMENT ACTION AGAINST DEATH SQUADS

PA120331 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The dictatorship has created jobs for the commanders of the death squads. While more than 700,000 Salvadorans are unemployed in our country, Alvaro Magana's government, due to Yankee pressure to expel the members of the death squads from the Armed Forces, has created new and generous positions abroad for these criminals.

The dictatorship and the fascist military high command have again proved their collusion and complicity with the death squads by sending Major (Ricardo Poso), commander of Section 2 of the Treasury Police intelligence department, as military attache to the fascist Government of Paraguay. Another criminal figure who has been denounced by our people is Lieutenant Colonel Aristides Alfonso Marquez, deputy director of the military school. He will also be granted a diplomatic post in another country where a terrorist regime exists, such as Chile, Uruguay, South Africa, or Israel.

This was done with Captain (Avila), who was directly responsible for the murder of the two agrarian reform technicians and the president of ISTA [Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation]. We have also learned that the other man involved in the two U.S. citizens' murders, Lieutenant (Isidro Lopez Sibrian), commander of the Cazadores Battalion at the 4th Infantry Brigade [title as heard], was transferred with new responsibilities to the military detachment in Ahuachapan because of his links with the death squads.

All the people are clearly aware that Magana's government is secretly making agreements with the high commanders of the death squads. They are the same men who are leading the National Guard, Treasury Police, National Police, presidential staff, and units of the puppet army.

Due to the oligarchy's resistance, [Colonel] Nicolas Carranza and [Colonel] Reynaldo Lopez Nuila have not been dismissed from their posts. However, Yankee Ambassador Thomas Pickering knows perfectly well that Reynaldo Lopez Nuila is a high commander of the so-called Secret Anticommunist Army. The same gang uses the National Police infrastructure to commit its brutal crimes against any citizen who seeks to change the present situation of hunger, poverty, and exploitation.

The Yankees know perfectly well that to end the death squads would mean beheading the high command, the repressive forces, the Army, and the oligarchy itself. They are not interested in doing this, since it would go against their interests, because there is a bloody pact involved.

Duarte is the direct accomplice of the death squads. D'Aubuisson is a leader of the death squads. The U.S. State Department, the Pentagon, the Yankee embassy in our country, and Ronald Reagan himself know this perfectly well. Magana's government is now guaranteeing jobs abroad to these criminals. These men have not been tried for their brutal crimes against our people and against U.S. citizens.

ARMY REPORTEDLY DESTROYS GUERRILLA REDOUBTS

PA120540 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 10 Jan 84 p 3

[Excerpts] The installations of an ANTEL [National Administration for Telecommunications relay antenna have been destroyed by guerrillas in a district of Las Vueltas, Chalatenango the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, has reported. It also reported the launching of a combing operation in the area with forces from Military Detachment 1.

According to the COPREFA report, the search and destroy operation against subversive strongholds resulted in clashes and the seizure of weapons, propaganda, and documents on plans for further guerrilla actions in the area. At a place near the ANTEL relay antenna the Army dismantled an extremist redoubt and seized the guerrillas' banner.

In another report, COPREFA reported 17 extremists killed and an undetermined number wounded in 3 clashes with Army troops over the weekend in various parts of the country. In another development, it has been reported that troops of the Ramon Belloso Battalion clashed with an extremist column near El Tremedal Canton, in San Francisco Morazan, Chalatenango. Six terrorists were killed, and an M-16 rifle and a .30-caliber carbine were seized.

Clashes, Casualties Reported

PA122116 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Several Army units have been sent to the northern area of La Union Department to dislodge FMLN extremists who in the last few hours have seized the towns of Anamoros and Nueva Esparta. According to military sources in La Union Department, many of the local people have left in search of safer areas, due to the presence of the leftists, who upon meeting no resistance in either of these places are forcing the locals to remain. Units of the Cazadores and Artillery Battalions have been mobilized in an effort to recover the localities in northern La Union Department as soon as possible.

From another quarter, Army patrols unexpectedly fell on guerrillas who were moving through Las Flores Village, jurisdiction of Santiago de Maria, Usulutan Department. This took place last Wednesday; a 30-minute clash ensued.

According to military reports received from Usulutan Department, the counterinsurgency operations that seek to wipe out the leftists in the area have been successful. The number of casualties on both sides during the short clashes that took place in Las Flores Village, Santiago de Maria, has not been determined.

Meanwhile, leftists and National Guardsmen clashed yesterday in Gualache Province, Usulutan Department, about 10 km east of Santiago de Maria. According to preliminary reports, five National Guardsmen were wounded in these actions when the leftists ambushed their patrol at the entrance to the small village of Gualache. According to the civilian population's statements, approximately three leftists were also wounded and taken by their companeros toward El Taburete Hill, where they have their camps.

Finally, last night leftists tried to dynamite the railroad bridge in Aguilares, about 35 km north of the capital, but were repelled by the local security personnel. According to preliminary reports, the leftists managed to plant only one explosive charge, which blew only four of the bridge's rails. After engaging in a heavy shootout with the security forces, they withdrew. According to official reports obtained in the area, the troops managed to kill one of the rebels. The Salvadoran Government's forces have continued patrolling in pursuit of the attackers.

VENCEREMOS RECALLS 1ST BROADCAST ON ANNIVERSARY

PA122025 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] On 10 January 1981, Radio Venceremos aired its first broadcast. Three years later, we also defeated the Army in the fields of ideological struggle and information. On 10 January 1981, the working class, wielding Radio Venceremos, stormed the airwaves.

At sunset on 10 January 1981, 3 years ago, a small motor was started and Radio Venceremos was readied for its first broadcast. This happened at the (Punto Rojo) camp on a hill in La Guacamaya Canton, Morazan Department. At the same time that the radio station's birth was being prepared under a bamboo thicket, small transmitters were also prepared to coordinate the attack on the San Francisco Gotera quarters.

The shortwave transmitter was warmed up; simple equipment was also prepared: a small pocket recorder with a single recorded cassette that would be placed to a microphone at the proper time to broadcast revolutionary slogans. The technician was a companero who was adept at disassembling motors, irons, and other artifacts, but who was not a radio expert. Nevertheless, working class creativity achieved the impossible. At that moment, our people began listening to Radio Venceremos with this slogan: "The people, united, will never be defeated."

At the same hour that workers and peasants began their lessons in fighting by attacking one of the dictatorship's most heavily defended quarters in San Francisco Gotera, Commander Joaquin Villalobos broadcast a message to the Salvadoran people at the beginning of an historical stage for the national liberation, the jump toward victory.

[Begin recording] Our people, like all other peoples, love peace and tranquillity, but they also love freedom and justice. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

The same day that our guerrilla columns hurled themselves forward to fight in military clashes, we also began learning how to build a guerrilla radio station. Peasant companeras would start learning to gather infomration.

Young peasants from Morazan made up the military force that would protect Radio Venceremos. It would seem sheer lunacy to maintain a radio station in La Guacamaya Canton only a 2-hour walk from the closest enemy garrison, with roads leading to points that overlooked the station, without any forest whatsoever to conceal the installation. The enemy thought this was not only lunacy but also a challenge. In March 1981, the dictatorship launched a gigantic operation in Morazan. Thousands of soldiers mounted a ring that slowly began closing on Radio Venceremos. The operation's purpose was to destroy the station. The enemy troops were kept at bay for 22 days. During that time, our heroic people defended its station and wrote a beautiful page of heroism and sacrifice. For the first time, an action occurred during which our newborn revolutionary army challenged the enemy in a war of position. These clashes gave our people the satisfication of obtaining their first U.S.-made rifles, sent by Reagan and taken by us in combat.

Those were 22 days of humilating and containing the best of the dictatorship's troops under genocidal officers such as Napoleon Medina Garay, who today is our prisoner. These were 22 days of broadcasting under fierce shelling and artillery fire.

After this demonstration of courage by our combatants and militiamen, the march to break the ring was begun. The marching men carried an instrument of our revolution, Radio Venceremos. We broke the ring by fighting. The dictatorship sang victory. Gen Garcia announced that the station had been destroyed. Yankee radio stations disseminated the information with the speed they disseminate a lie.

However, while the tyrants celebrated the supposed destruction of our station, that same day, behind the enemy lines, Radio Venceremos broadcast to tell peasants and our workers that the station had not been destroyed. We went on the air to tell our companero political prisoners, refugees abroad, and the world that the Salvadoran people had passed the difficult test. We told the world that here, in a territory of only a few square kilometers, the Salvadoran working class, with its infinite creativity and its unending determination to win, had built an information instrument, an instrument for ideological struggle, for strengthening international solidarity, for the chance to reach all sectors of the nation.

We now had the ability to tell soldiers: Soldier, your place is not in that anti-national army, but close to the people. The working class now had an instrument to break the imperialist circle of misinformation.

On 10 January, the working class, wielding Radio Venceremos, stormed the airwaves. Since that time, the Radio Venceremos guerrilla call sign has been accompanying our revolutionary army in its victories, carrying to every radio receiver the din of combat, the words of combatants, interviews with captured officers and soldiers. Radio Venceremos broadcasts the voices of peasant and workers to the world, highlighting their victories.

Farabundo Marti Sends Greetings

PA121930 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Good afternoon, heroic Salvadoran people. Today, 11 January, we send our most combative and victorious greetings to our sister radio station, Radio Venceremos, which today commemorates 3 years of uninterrupted transmission for the Salvadoran people and other peoples of the world.

Radio Venceremos, which emerged amid popular combat when our FMLN launched its glorious general offensive 3 years ago, has played an outstanding role, winning important battles against the regime in the communications fields, breaking the dictatorship's misinformation siege, and defeating the interference of the people's enemies, who have unsuccessfully tried to silence our voices.

We are also winning the battle against the dictatorship in the propaganda and information fields. Our revolutionary radion stations -- Radio Venceremos, Radio Guazapa, and Radio Farabundo Marti, genuine representatives of the people's power -- are fulfilling their role of informing and guiding our people in the advancement of the revolution, practicing revolutionary journalism, which accompanies our people in their liberation struggle, free from the opprobrious censorship that characterizes the current puppet government and which it imposes on the media.

In this important battle, Radio Venceremos has fought even in the midst of huge enemy operations, making its voice of freedom heard and winning the people's affection.

Today, after 3 years of combat, we tell them: Onward companeros, the victory is ours! Let's face the lies of the bloody dictatorship with the revolutionary truth!

GUATEMALA

VENCEREMOS REPORTS EGP ACTION IN HUEHUETENANGO

PA121452 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] A total of 14 Guatemalan soldiers were killed and 6 others wounded in a guerrilla ambush laid in Heuhuetenango Department in the last few hours, a communique released by the Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] has announced. According to the communique, in another action carried out in [name indistinct], Barillas Municipality, Guatemalan patriots attacked a unit of the 2d Battalion of Huehuetenango, inflicting several casualties and recovering 10 Galil rifles.

The EGP, the Rebel Armed Forces, the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, and the Guatemalan Labor Party comprise the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, UNRG, which has been dealing harsh blows at Mejia Victores' troops in several departments and even in the capital city.

HONDURAS

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON DOWNED U.S. AIRCRAFT

Troops Attack Sandinists

PA121807 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1631 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 12 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran and Nicaraguan troops clashed yesterday for half an hour at the site where a U.S. helicopter was downed and its pilot killed by shots coming from Nicaraguan territory. A military spokesman confirmed to ACAN-EFE today that the clash took place when Hunduran troops were forced to attack the Nicaraguan forces shooting at a group of ranking Honduran officers who were inspecting the downed aircraft.

Among the officers under Sandinist fire was Colonel Danilo Ferrera Suazo, commander of the Honduran 110th Infantry Brigade. Also present were Colonel Rolando Gutierrez Caballero, the commander of the zone, and other officers of minor rank.

The clash took place on the highway joining the Honduran communities of Las Trojes and Cifuentes, in eastern El Paraiso Department on the border with Nicaragua.

There was a Honduran plane in the area yesterday, in addition to the downed U.S. helicopter, which explains the initial reports on the incident stating that the victims were Honduran.

The Honduran Army did not report any casualties, nor did it clarify whether the Nicaraguan troops it attacked to protect the detachment of Honduran officers had suffered any. Military sources said today that troops have orders not to answer the "constant provocations" of the Sandinist soldiers, but to repel any attempt they may make to enter national territory.

Calm After Helicopter Downing

PA121255 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Luis Alonso Gomez report from Danli]

[Text] Here is information from the site of the helicopter downed by Sandinist elements between Las Trojes and Cifuentes. We have just returned from that area, where we learned the truth about the incident that caused the death of the pilot of a helicopter that had been engaged in the "Big Pine II" maneuvers.

The helicopter was flying from one of the communities in the recovered zone toward the base in (Palmerola). While flying along the border over Honduran territory, the aircraft was downed by shots fired by Sandinists in the hills near Cifuentes. The helicopter is currently on the road leading to Las Trojes, between what was the Cifuentes customs house and the town of Las Trojes. The damage to the helicopter is not considerable, but the shots did kill the pilot. The helicopter, which bears a red cross on its tail, is a conventional model, not a helicopter gunship. According to the local people, the Sandinists fired at the aircraft for pleasure, and only a few minutes later the Sandinist troops could be heard from the hills shouting provocations at the Honduran military men who came to protect the aircraft, which had already been downed on a Honduran road. From the hills, the Sandinists could be heard challenging the Honduran troops to fire at their positions. However, the Honduran forces maintained their discipline and refused to fall into the trap the Sandinist troops were laying.

At 1600 today, Colonel (Rolando Guterrez Caballero), commander of the 6th Infantry Battalion, arrived in Cifuentes accompanied by Colonel Danilo Ferrera Suazo, commander of the 110th Brigade. Both men came to learn about this morning's incident in Cifuentes.

Meanwhile, the people of Cifuentes have remained calm, because since this morning's incidents, nothing has occurred to endanger their lives. Both cargo and passenger vehicles have continued operating in Las Trojes, Cifuentes, and Danli, in El Paraiso Department. The situation is completely calm, except for the Sandinists' provocations, which the Honduran troops are ignoring.

Suazo Addresses Reagan

PA122307 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2212 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Communique issued by the Foreign Secretariat's Press and Information Directorate in Tegucigalpa on 12 January]

[Text] On the occasion of the tragic death of U.S. Warrant Officer Jeffrey Schwab, Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, constitutional president of the Republic, has addressed U.S. President Ronald Reagan in the following terms:

The Honduran Government expresses its sorrow over the tragic death of Warrant Officer Jeffrey Schwab, a regrettable incident that occurred during an armed attack that members of the Nicaraguan Army perpetrated against Honduran territory and the aircraft that Warrant Officer Schwab was piloting over our territory.

We believe that this incident demonstrates the conduct of those who are unwilling to work on behalf of a stable peace for Central America, to the detriment of the ideals of freedom and justice and the establishment of democratic and pluralistic systems, which are shared by our peoples and governments.

I reiterate to the President my feeling of grief and my solidarity with the U.S. people, particularly with the family of the slain citizen.

I cordially salute you,

[Signed] Roberto Suazo Cordova, President of Honduras

Protest Note to Nicaragua

PA122323 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2201 GMT 12 Jan 84

[By Marco Tulio Romero]

[Text] The Honduran Foreign Secretariat has addressed the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry to strongly protest the serious action carried out by members of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] in violation of our sovereignty and territorial integrity with the tragic result of one life lost. The official protest note addressed to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto states that yesterday, 11 January, at approximately 0800, an unarmed U.S. Army OH-58 helicopter was hit by rifle fire coming from Nicaraguan territory. Traveling in the aircraft were Warrant Officer Jeffrey Schwab and two engineers. The three men were U.S. citizens. The helicopter was traveling between the Honduran Departments of Valle and Olancho. When attacked from Nicaraguan territory, the helicopter was damaged and forced to land on the road to Las Trojes, El Paraiso, in Honduran territory. The aircraft is approximately 3 km from the community of Cifuentes, El Paraiso Department.

The Honduran Foreign Secretariat note adds that after the aircraft was forced to land, EPS soldiers continued to fire on the occupants of the aircraft. The aircraft's pilot, Warrant Officer Schwab, was instantly killed by a rifle bullet. The two other passengers were able to escape and were rescued by Honduran troops.

The Honduran foreign secretary, on behalf of our government, informs the Nicaraguan foreign minister that this violation of Honduran territory is one of a series of hostile actions that the Nicaraguan Government has been carrying out on the border with Honduras, and accuses the Nicaraguan Government, by means of such actions, of perversely trying to damage the peace efforts being developed within the initiative of the Contadora Group.

The Honduran Government has once again made clear to the Nicaraguan Government that it is willing to seek agreements through diplomatic channels that may allow the current crisis experienced by the Central American region to be overcome, and has once again reiterated its emphatic determination to defend Honduran sovereignty and territorial integrity in the face of any act of aggression.

In underscoring the extreme seriousness of the aggressive actions of the Nicaraguan Government, the Honduran foreign secretary urges the Nicaraguan Government to issue a satisfactory explanation on the incident, and requests the assurance that the Nicaraguan Government will put aside its warmongering conduct and will reiterate respect for the inviolability of our territory. All these actions are a threat to peace and regional security.

The Honduran foreign secretary has also addressed the Contadora Group foreign ministers to express the Honduran Government's concern over the EPS armed attack against our territory and the aircraft flying over our territory. At the same time, the Honduran Foreign Secretariat has informed the OAS Permanent Council and the UN Security Council of the protest note sent to the Nicaraguan Government. The Honduran permanent delegation before the OAS, following the instructions of the Foreign Secretariat, has asked the president of the OAS Permanent Council to call a meeting to explain the serious threats to peace and regional security brought on by yesterday's armed attack by the EPS.

Nicaraguan Envoy Recalled

PA122327 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2309 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 12 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan Ambassador in Honduras Edwin Ablah today left Tegucigalpa for Managua, urgently recalled by his government, reliable Honduran Government sources have told this agency.

According to these sources, the Nicaraguan diplomat's unexpected departure was caused by the crisis that resulted from the downing of a U.S. helicopter in Honduran territory and the death of its pilot.

Diplomatic sources have told ACAN-EFE that the Managua government has requested Ablah's presence in that capital, possibly to report first-hand on the situation in Honduras following the incident.

ARMY DENIES REPORTED CLASH WITH SANDINISTS

PA121520 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 11 Jan 84 p 52

[Text] The Armed Forces yesterday denied that there had been clashes between Honduran and Nicaraguan soldiers, as reported by international agencies in this capital.

Colonel Cesar Elvir Sierra, National Army public relations chief, told LA TRIBUNA that Sandinists had fired -- "apparently a grenade" -- from the other side of the border toward Honduran territory, causing alarm among the inhabitants. "However, it is not correct" to say that there had been a clash, he pointed out.

According to the report denied by the Army, "the clash" lasted "4 hours," until the "Sandinist attack with artillery fire was repelled by Honduran forces" who "inflicted several casualties." Colonel Sierra said that the incident took place north of the border along the Guasaule River, some 225 km southeast of this capital. He said that "the Honduran soldiers have orders not to answer fire in cases of provocation, but only when the Sandinists try to enter Honduran territory."

EPS REPORTEDLY OCCUPIES 2 SCHOOLS IN BORDER AREA

PA121415 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 11 Jan 84 p 50

[Text] Two schools, one located in Sabana Redonda, within the jurisdiction of Las Trojes in El Paraiso, have been occupied by members of the Sandinist People's Army (EPS).

According to reports, the Honduran Army did not learn of this incident until yesterday, but the situation is expected to return to normal. Sabana Redonda, a village near the Honduran-Nicaraguan border, has suffered similar actions by the EPS in the past, resulting in kidnappings and offenses against its inhabitants, who have been taken as far as Nicaragua.

PROTEST TO NICARAGUA OVER ATTACKS ON MISKITOS

PA122316 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2208 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The following press communique represents a new Honduran protest over a number of acts involving the persecution, abuse, and killing of Miskito residents in the Honduran territory of Mosquitia. The press communique states the following:

Through the Foreign Relations Secretariat, the Honduran Government addressed the Nicaraguan Government again today to strongly protest the persecution, abuse, and killing of Miskito residents in Honduras' Mosquitia territory.

The official protest note sent by Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica to his Nicaraguan counterpart, Miguel D'Escoto, stresses that on Tuesday, 3 January, Sandinist military forces crossed our border and went to the Miskito town of Quihaustara, 2 km inside Honduran territory, for the purpose of forcing the Miskito refugees to return to Nicaraguan territory.

Having once again failed in their attempt, on 5 January at 1600, over 20 soldiers of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] treacherously attacked this town, barefacedly machinegunning the population. As a result of these two actions, Karies Williams, Alfredo Decas, Manuel Vargas, Capestano Vargas, Hilario Merdi, Santiago Rodriguez, Ricardo Williams, and Luis Vargas were killed, and Jose and Carmelo Vargas were seriously wounded. In addition, it has been reported that three children whose names could not be determined were killed, and that an entire family is missing.

The protest letter adds that on 6 January approximately 60 EPS soldiers returned and attacked the town of Quihuastara, and that on this occasion two Sandinist Air Force planes violated our airspace. Our government, says the Honduran note, once more protests these criminal actions and the violation of our sovereignty and territorial integrity, which demonstrates the warmongering and openly hostile attitude of the Sandinist government.

This new, sad case again demonstrates that the repression launched by the Sandinist government against the defenseless Miskito population has transcended Nicaraguan territory and extended into Honduran territory. The Honduran Government categorically declares to the Sandinist government that we demand a prompt explanation of these actions and urge the Nicaraguan Government to cease committing acts that constitute grave threats to the region's peace and security and to unequivocally adhere to the peace negotiations initiated by the Contadora Group.

Tegucigalpa, D.C., 12 January 1984

Directorate of Information and Press, Secretariat of Foreign Relations

GOVERNMENT TO INDEMNIFY FOREIGNERS FOR CBI

PA121901 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpt] It has been confirmed: In order to receive the economic benefits of the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) Honduras must indemnify two foreigners who brought property here, violating the country's laws. Resorting to the so-called Economic Emergency Law, the government has issued a decree acknowledging the rights of Puerto Rican Temistocles Ramirez and Bryan O'Neal. Thus, the government is complying with Section 212 of the CBI Law on Economic Recovery. Our national laws have thus been reduced to wet paper, since Honduras has submitted itself to the demands included in provisions of the CBI Law on Economic Recovery. Only in this manner could the Honduran Government receive new resources as a CBI beneficiary. Honduras was on the blacklist, and as previously reported, only by meeting a number of prerequisites could it expect to join the list of fortunate beneficiaries.

Last Monday, 2 January, edition no 24,204 of the official newspaper LA GACETA carried Executive Decree No 17, issued by the president of the Republic and authorized by the Economic Emergency Law. In that decree, the president of the Republic authorizes the payment of indemnity to the Trujillo Cattle Company, owned by Puerto Rican Temistocles Vasquez [name as heard] who, violating Honduran law, bought land in restricted zones which the government (?should) have declared strategic areas.

NICARAGUA

DANIEL ORTEGA ON HELICOPTER, KISSINGER REPORT

PA130403 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0201 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Interview with Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, by an unidentified reporter at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua on 12 January following a meeting of the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican Mixed Commission -- recorded]

[Summary from poor reception] [Ortega] We feel that this 5th meeting of the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan Mixed Commission is very important. This is an effort to contribute to peace in Central America.

It should be noted, however, "that on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border area, some tense situations are arising against the Contadora Group's peace efforts in the region," while the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan Mixed Commission is making efforts toward peace here in Managua. This is the example that should be followed, and not the example that is being given at the border with Honduras, "where there is a military presence" directed against the Nicaraguan people the peace efforts in Central America.

We have not yet had an opportunity to reflect on the report of the Kissinger commission. I would say that this commission was mostly designed to give a response to a short-term situation and to strengthen a given Yankee policy. "Each time a crisis arises in Latin America, the United States hastens to appoint commissions." When the Cuban revolution triumphed, the United States appointed commissions, and then forgot Latin America. Commissions were again appointed when the United States militarily intervened in Santo Domingo, and then it forgot about Latin America. "Therefore, we do not believe that the Kissinger commission report contains anything extraordinary." Simply stated, it is aimed at strengthening an already known policy.

[Reporter] What new information is there regarding the helicopter that violated our airspace?

[Ortega] "There is an official communique of the Nicaraguan Government in that regard." There is a communique from the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry describing the events. "We believe that there have been contradictory statements by the U.S. Government's representatives, because they have insisted that the helicopter was fired upon after it had landed. We must point out that the helicopter was fired upon when it was flying over Nicaraguan territory. That is where the helicopter was fired upon."

"There is no explanation -- no explanation could be given by them -- as to what that helicopter was doing so close to the Nicaraguan border. It even flew over Nicaraguan territory." From the initial reports, we thought it was a helicopter that had been supplied to the counterrevolutionaries by the CIA. We also thought that it was a Honduran helicopter that has been directly supporting the counterrevolutionaries activities. We did not imagine it was a North American helicopter. We were the first to be surprised, and they are already saying that it was fired upon while it was on the ground.

[Reporter] President Reagan said the death of this pilot was a great trgedy.

[Ortega] "It is a great tragedy that North American and Central American citizens are dying in Central America." One should look at the causes. "This is the result of a policy of aggression against the Central American peoples. The death of the North American pilot should be a call to reflect on the need to stop bloodying Central America and to look for a political solution to the problems that have been created."

[Reporter] Do you think this was an attempt to provoke us?

[Ortega] "We think, and hope, that this was not a provocation." We hope this was really an accidental situation that neither the United States nor Nicaragua wanted, and therefore, that it will not serve as a pretext for larger actions.

RADIO SANDINO VIEWS KISSINGER REPORT ON C.A.

PA121845 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Kissinger's report on Central America fans war flames in an effort to reinforce Reagan's interventionist actions through open blackmail of the Sandinist revolutionary process. The Kissinger report on Central America can be described as a slap in the face to Contadora's pacifist efforts. This report backs the Reagan administration's aggressive stance in the region by stressing the already worn-out theory that the Central American crisis is the result of a USSR offensive on the continent.

In most of its recommendations, the Kissinger report identifies with the U.S. interventionist tradition, with a determination similar to Reagan's.

The Kissinger commission tries to present President Reagan's militaristic policy as one interested in the social and economic aspects of the Central American region. However, the United States has always offered candy when the peoples' willingness to eradicate misery, underdevelopment, and hunger becomes more intense. These evils are the result of U.S. consortiums' exploitation of the region.

Arguing that U.S. national security has been threatened by a Soviet and Cuban power offensive in America, particularly through the installation of a Marxist-Leninist regime in Nicaragua, the report maintains that it will be necessary to project U.S. power somehow in order to preserve the interests of the U.S. and other nations of the area. In other words, they are attempting a vulgar blackmail of the Sandinist process in their 132-page report, which confirms their support for the Somozist counterrevolutionary bands under the absurd pretext that these forces might trigger a negotiated solution in the area.

In this paragraph, the report tries to conceal from the U.S. people how the Somozists have suffered substantial defeats and that their demoralized and annihilated forces do not constitute pressure on the Sandinist Armed Forces.

The Kissinger report makes a very peculiar interpretation of Contadora's 21 items, demanding large internal changes regarding foreign policy that would surely be unacceptable for the Sandinist government.

Elsewhere, the report states that Nicaragua must be aware that force is a last resort and tries to compel Nicaragua to accept agreements harmful to its sovereignty and self-determination. This report also has coercive aspects with regard to Nicaraguan elections. It ignored the fact that the next electoral process has been announced by the Sandinist government within the FSLN historical plan and as a sovereign act of a revolutionary government.

The Kissinger report also recommends that the private sector foster a solution to the area's housing problem, that is, the very same sector that for many years exploited and ejected thousands of tenants in arrears. The report also recommends an increase in the number of Peace Corps volunteers, who are closely associated with the CIA.

KISSINGER REPORTEDLY REQUESTED QUAINTON REMOVAL

PA121643 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 6 Jan 84 p 2

[Excerpts] Even though it has already been officially announced in the United States that U.S. Ambassador Anthony Quainton will be giving up his post, we offer a news item distributed by AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA [ANN] on 1 January 1984. The ANN dispatch reports the reasons behind Kissinger's request for the removal of the ambassador. Here is the report:

Current U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua Anthony Quainton will soon be removed from his position because his reports on Nicaragua's domestic progress "aroused the ire" of former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Among other things, Quainton is reported to have said that the Sandinist Government "is functioning moderately well," in areas such as public education.

According to a [NEW YORK TIMES] article, Kissinger became "furious" when he read those reports, and immediately complained to the White House, which in turn notified the State Department of Kissinger's complaint. The State Department then decided to replace its ambassador in Managua.

Queried by ANN on the report, a State Department press officer said that "as a routine policy, we do not comment on personnel matters," but added that ambassadors remain in their positions "at the President's discretion."

RADIO SANDINO RIDICULES PAZ BARNICA ON CONTADORA

PA121638 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] U.S. Ambassador John Dimitri Negroponte is the one who really governs Honduras. This is understood by everyone: you, dear listener, us, and the Honduran Government itself, which feels no shame over this reality.

Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica knows that his political role is insignificant and that no one cares about what he might have to say. However, with due respect, it seems that Paz Barnica has gone a little too far in making irresponsible declarations, perhaps trusting that no one except Proconsul Negroponte takes those declarations seriously.

Just as THE NEW YORK TIMES reported, the Honduran Foreign Ministry, acting on the Reagan administration's instructions, has done the most to hamper the work of the Contadora Group. But surely Paz Barnica would hardly ask in public for the dissolution of the Contadora Group. This group was created despite Washington's opposition. Thus, Paz Barnica resorted to diversionist tactics. Instead of firmly supportingContadora's proposed 21-point Document of Objectives, as Nicaragua did, at the last minute Honduras presented an alternate proposal whose discussion would have meant an indefinite delay at the group's latest meeting in Panama, thus sabotaging the Group's pacification purposes.

This is not the first time the pawns of imperialism have resorted to such diversionist strategies to conceal their aversion to all pacifying initiatives in the area. The former Costa Rican foreign minister often resorted to similar strategies.

Since being dismissed from his post, Mr Volio has unshamedly admitted that he is opposed to the Contadora Group, the mixed commission created by the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan Governments and President Monge's neutrality declaration. However, Volio said this now that he is no longer foreign minister. Mr Volio, with the generous publicity given him by LA PRENSA newspaper in Managua, shows his warlike, anti-Nicaraguan mentality.

Now, let's get back to Mr Paz Barnica, who still has not resigned his lofty post. Paz Barnica took the liberty to announce last Friday an alternate plan to be presented by Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica that would have "the support of Central American nations, those from Latin America, and all the nations of the world."

Let's see what happened after this mouse's roar. On Saturday, 7 January, at the beginning of the meeting in Panama City, Paz Barnica presented his alternate proposal. The Guatemalan, Nicaraguan, Mexican, Colombian, Venezuelan, and Panamanian foreign ministers immediately opposed its discussion. By midafternoon, Honduras had discarded its proposal, which was not supported by Central America or Latin America, which, of course, was not represented at the Panama City meeting, or the world's nations, which we are still interested in learning about.

Later, Honduras opposed a basic Contadora proposal: the withdrawal of foreign military advisers. This withdrawal, of course, was supported by Nicaragua. After this negative stance, which left Paz Barnica isolated and at a disadvantage, he arrived in Tegucigalpa, and with the confidence of someone addressing morons, announced that all the topics proposed by Honduras were approved by the Contadora Group. He added that his country, invaded by 17,000 Yankee soldiers, is the most democratic on the isthmus.

It is true that such declarations lack significance, but it is shameful to see that his excellency the foreign minister dons garments several sizes too large for him. This forces us to again ask the question: Who covers the nakedness of the Honduran Foreign Ministry?

SERGIO RAMIREZ ANALYZES ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA111930 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Nicaragua's economic growth in 1983 was 3.2 percent, despite military aggression and economic pressure from imperialism. This can be compared with the drop in the gross national product of the other countries of the area. This information was provided by Government Junta member Sergio Ramirez Mercado, who analyzed economic behavior during 1983 at the first assembly of bank workers, which was held at the Gonzalez Theater.

Ramirez Mercado said that because of the world crisis promoted by U.S. policies, Nicaragua has had to face increased foreign bank interest rates and low export prices. In addition, the country has had to endure an economic blockade imposed by financial sources because of the aggressive U.S. attitude. This is evident by the fact that Nicaragua has not received any international private bank credit since 1979.

The junta member said that the Reagan administration's military aggression has also had negative effects on the economy. This aggression resulted in losses amounting to 1.1 billion cordobas in 1983. An additional $370 million was lost because of the drought that affected the country.

The economy has also been affected by service on the foreign debt, which caused a lack of liquidity in the trade balance and a chronic shortage of foreign exchange. Area trade restrictions imposed by the clearing house are the result of export reductions of $750 million, a drop to a total of $450 million.

EMBASSY IN HONDURAS SURROUNDED FOR PROTECTION

PA120230 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan Embassy in Tegucigalpa was surrounded for several hours yesterday by elite Honduran Cobra troops.

News media in Honduras said this measure was aimed at preventing a counterrevolutionary attack on the embassy. It was also reported that the counterrevolutionaries had quite probably announced that they would place an explosive device -- a high-powered bomb -- at the Nicaraguan diplomatic mission in Tegucigalpa.

In addition, it was reported that this measure was adopted at the request of Edwin Ablah, our ambassador in Tegucigalpa. The truth is that counterrevolutionaries move about freely in Honduras, and our ambassador has received anonymous notes and calls indicating that the embassy will be dynamited and he will be murdered.

COUNCIL APPROVES POLITICAL PARTIES LAW ARTICLES

PA121739 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] At the first extraordinary session of the State Council, 4 of the 55 articles of the Political Parties Law were approved yesterday.

The session was dedicated to Doctor Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal on the sixth anniversary of his assassination.

The articles approved by the plenary session establish that only those Nicaraguans who enjoy their full political rights can organize political parties and that the norms and regulations of the Political Parties Law are compulsory. The articles in question also indicate that both the National Assembly and the National Council of Political Parties will have functional and administrative autonomy.

Representatives of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party and the Conservative Party were conspicuously absent during the debate.

PHILIP AGEE VISITS STATE PRODUCTION UNIT

PA122347 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 5 Jan 84 pp 1, 5

[Excerpts] Only 30 km from the Honduran border, where battles are waged daily against the invaders, former CIA agent Philip Agee was very impressed by the fact that, although in a war, Nicaraguans are building the revolution.

Agee, who together with 29 other U.S. citizens spent 15 days at the El Chaguiton State Production Unit, had the opportunity to verify that there is not one peasant here who has not had a relative or friend murdered or wounded by the counter-revolution. Agee told this to newsmen upon his return from the northern area. Yesterday another group of U.S. citizens went to the area of Muy Muy, Matagalpa, where they had similar experiences, which they shared with German, Norwegian, and Swedish citizens who are also supporting Nicaragua.

They all agreed that relations among the committees of solidarity with Nicaragua should be strengthened, because news media in those countries are always giving the impression that the people fully support Reagan's warmongering policy.

The fact that a group of U.S. citizens has come to Nicaragua to help in the coffee harvest without expecting any pay is a demonstration of good will and criticism of the Reagan administration, while Nicaragua is making proposals to achieve peace and to solve the conflicts in the area.

These were the conclusions reached yesterday by former CIA agent Philip Agee, who together with other U.S. citizens shared everyday life for 2 weeks with the peasants of the El Chaguiton State Production Unit in northern Esteli.

At the estate, formerly owned by Pastor Midence, there is also a beautiful health center in what used to be the house of the Somozist, who now resides in Miami, Florida.

This solidarity group yesterday issued a statement on the impressions they obtained from this rich experience with 800 rural workers and a group of students from Chinandega, members of the Students' Battalion for Production.

DEFENSE, FOREIGN MINISTRIES REPORT CLASHES

PA111951 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] The Defense Ministry has reported three clashes on Sunday and Monday in which 74 Somozist counterrevolutionaries were killed in the zones bordering Honduras. According to the military report, a clash occurred on Sunday in Huaspan, northern Zelaya, where 30 Somozist criminals were killed, and another clash took place in (Ilipan), 13 km east of Leimus, in which two more Somozist criminals were killed. Yesterday, in (Placas), 35 km northwest of Rio Blanco, another clash occurred, leaving a total of 42 enemy casualties. A number of arms were recovered by the Sandinist People's Army [EPS].

These actions coincide with others announced this morning by the Foreign Ministry, which stated that Honduran Army forces attacked EPS patrols in Chinandega Department.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES OPPOSITION DEMONSTRATION

PA112258 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Jan 84

["Beyond the News Reports" feature]

[Excerpts] The events carried out only hours ago to pay homage to Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal -- the martyr of public liberties -- on the 6th anniversary of his martyrdom have also served to show who is who in free Nicaragua.

The very existence of this country -- emancipated from foreign domination -- that in only 4 years of liberty has made important advances for the benefit of the people in the fields of health, education, nutrition, recreation, and material and spiritual well-being, represents the best homage to a fighter who made social justice the center of his political program.

Politicians and intellectuals who were close to Chamorro and who now, loyal to his teachings, work in important government positions, have unmasked those who beat their chests and scream Pedro Joaquin when only yesterday they were his enemies and attacked him here and abroad.

What sincerity can exist among the current directors of the daily LA PRENSA who, as they hypocritically pay homage to Chamorro, simultaneously provocatively show disrespect for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of General Sandino's death and give a lot of space to Mr Fernando Volio, former foreign minister of Costa Rica, who denigrates the Contadora Group and opposes President Monge for having proclaimed his country's neutrality in the face of the regional crisis.

What connection is there between the apologies that the daily LA PRENSA continuously offers as explanations for imperialism's display of force and the desire for Central American peace and unity proclaimed by Chamorro?

The opponents of this revolution -- only a few persons -- marched yesterday. They were protected by the Sandinist police. They shouted their counterrevolutionary slogans, pretending there was a connection between that and the martyred journalist.

The liberation effort of the Nicaraguan people has taken such decisive and irreversible steps that the people have enough strength to tolerate the presence of these sectors within the framework of the democracy, liberty, and pluralism that was conquered with blood and bullets.

This fact is the best homage we can pay to Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal.

ARDE PROPOSES UNITED REBEL 'DEMOCRATIC PROJECT'

PA122027 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Convocation by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance on 10 January in San Jose, Costa Rica, during the commemoration of the 6th anniversary of the death of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal]

[Text] On this historic date, 10 January, which marks the fall of public freedoms martyr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, whose sacrifice kindled the flame that led to the defeat of the previous dictatorship, the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, patriotically exhorts the forces fighting totalitarianism to work out a democratic project of national convergence which will permit the conciliation of the entire Nicaraguan nation.

The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, exhorts the armed organizations Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN; Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas, MISURA; Nicaraguan Democratic Union-Nicaraguan Armed Revolutionary Forces, UDN-FARN; and other groups fighting totalitarianism through the historic mandate of a people offering their blood for freedom to immediately begin efforts to organize the Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal National Convergence Democratic Project.

The objectives of this project must be, among others:

1. To promote understanding among the antitotalitarian forces, including the democratic sectors of the FSLN, overcoming prevailing obstacles.

2. To unify efforts to speed up the overthrow of totalitarianism in Nicaragua.

3. To draft a specific program for the pacification of the country, guaranteeing the stability of the area.

4. To guarantee the establishment of a democratic system of justice, freedom, and social progress, which may permit the people to choose their rulers through free elections.

5. To establish a national strategy of social and economic reconstruction.

6. To recover the confidence and credibility of Nicaragua in the eyes of the international community.

Aware of the supreme interest in the goals of a people fighting and dying for freedom and democracy, ARDE has prepared a number of agreements and proposals for the Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal National Convergence Democratic Project; a number of specific proposals to help us all overcome the unpleasantness of the past and of the totalitarian present that are obstacles to the nation's unity. We propose the creation of a pluralist junta representing the nation and the people's legitiamte interests, setting dates for elections, and making commitments for national reconstruction. These are some of ARDE's proposals to truly differentiate a historic project from an artificial and spurious pact.

We convoke the FDN, MISURA' the UDN-FARN, and the other forces fighting totalitarianism to join all efforts and proposals in this convergence and to respond historically to the challenge of our country.

We declare our immediate readiness to establish dates and to hold working sessions that will permit us to advance in drafting the Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal National Convergence Democratic Project, to make in the immediate future a reality of the democratic and liberating aspirations of the Nicaraguan people.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

ARDE REPORTS NEW VICTORY IN PUNTA GORDA

PA121519 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 12 Jan 84

[War Bulletin No 148 issued by the General Command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance "in the Nicaraguan mountians," on 11 January]

[Text] The General Command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, announces to the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world.

On 7 January 1984 at 0530 at the place known as (Rio Plata), jurisdiction of Punta Gorda, the (Gaspar Garcia Laviana) Column of the Luis Rojas Battalion attacked the EPS camp for 15 minutes, inflicting approximately 30 casualties on the enemy. Following the surprise attack, our patrol retreated and was pursued by the servants of Moscow and Havana integrated into the EPS ranks to the place known as Buena Vista in the same jurisdication of Punta Gorda. At 0830 the enemy pursuers fell into the trap set by the rest of the (Gaspar Garcia Laviana) column. After 10 minutes of fighting, the enemy forces retreated, carrying their wounded with them. They left behind three knapsacks and three bayonets.

The (Garcia Laviana) Column completed the operation without suffering any casualties.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

Further Report

PA122318 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 12 Jan 84

[War Bulletin No 149 issued by the General Command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, "in the Nicaraguan mountains," on 11 January]

[Text] The General Command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, announces to the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world:

At 0845 on 9 January 1984, at the place known as (Cano de Bartolo), jurisdiction of Punta Gorda, a patrol of the Jaguar-4 platoon led by Companero Segundo detected and engaged troops of the EPS occupation army, inflicting four killed and silencing an M-60 machinegun.

Despite the enemy's numerical superiority, our patrol made them flee in disarray, leaving behind large amounts of canned food and several hundred rounds of 7.62-mm ammunition of Soviet manufacture.

The clash lasted approximately 25 minutes. Our forces suffered no casualties and displayed their high fighting spirit.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

ARDE CLAIMS 3,080 EPS CASUALTIES DURING 1983

PA121914 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2213 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] San Jose, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The armed columns of the Nicaraguan opposition's Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) inflicted a total of 3,080 casualties on the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] last year, according to that political-military group's directorate.

An ARDE spokesman told ACAN-EFE that a military inventory of actions during 1983 showed a total of 191 operations since the beginning of military activities against the Manauga government. "Our patrols have reported 3,080 enemy casualties, but we have only been able to confirm 1,055 casualties through monitoring the EPS communications."

During the same period, the columns headed by Eden Pastora suffered 121 casualties, which the ARDE spokesman considered "a large figure for 9 months of fighting."

According to ARDE, Eden Pastora's troops last year seized 244 weapons and took a total of 93 prisoners of war, most of whom were turned over to the Red Cross.

The same spokesman told ACAN-EFE that ARDE controls a total of 6,500 square km of "liberated" territory inside Nicaragua, where "not a single Sandinist soldier enters or leaves." ARDE also claims to be fighting in another 15,000 square km, which actually involves a total of approximately 22,000 square km "where military action is underway." According to the same spokesman, ARDE's military command is located in the "liberated area" of 6,500 square km with some 10 km along the Costa Rican border, on the Rio San Juan, from a point 5 km east of the town of El Castillo almost to the mouth of Rio San Juan, in San Juan del Norte (Nicaragua), going some 65 km deep into Nicaraguan territory. Inside those 6,500 km, ARDE has all necessary corresponding military equipment and receives foreign aid from various countries in donations and purchased goods.

According to the spokesman, ARDE presently has a total of 5,600 armed men with an approximate maintenance cost of $80 a month per man. ARDE's representative claims that in the area of southern Nicaragua near the Costa Rican border, ARDE receives daily a "great flow" of peasants from far-off places in Nicaraguan territory.

BRIEFS

HOUSING MINISTRY FIGURES -- The Nicaraguan Housing Ministry built 4,000 houses throughout the national territory and an additional 1,000 in progressive neighborhoods, MINVA [Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements] Minister Miguel Ernesto Vigil has reported. About 70,000 people have benefitted from this plan. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Jan 84 PA]

LAND DEED DISTRIBUTION -- The National Office of Intervened Housing Developments (ONRI) reported that during the current year, at the national level, over 6,600 property deeds were distributed by that office, benefiting over 40,000 persons. The same source explained that in Managua 5,918 property deeds were distributed in the sectors of Ciudad Sandino, El Pilar, San Judas, Selim Shible, El Eden, Jose Dolores Estrada, and others. In other sectors of the country, 746 deeds were distributed in Nueva Segovia, Esteli, Madriz, Leon, Chinandega, Masaya, Carazo, Granada, and Rivas. [Text] [Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 27 Dec 83 p 5 PA]

COFFEE HARVEST FIGURES -- With the cooperation of 30,000 harvest brigade members, 95,000 quintals of coffee have been harvested in Esteli, Madriz, and Nueva Segovia Departments, which comprise Region 1. A production of 420,000 quintals has been estimated for this region, representing revenues of $4.5 million. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 84 PA]

CUBAN CANE CUTTERS -- A brigade of Cuban cane cutters arrived in Nicaragua on 6 January to participate in the 1983-84 sugarcane harvest. The brigade, made up of 41 cane cutters, is part of the scientific-technical agreement between Nicaragua and Cuba. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 6 Jan 84 PA]

INITIAL REPORT ON DOWNING OF U.S. HELICOPTER

FL121443 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] A cable from Managua outlines the Nicaraguan Government's demand that the downing of a U.S. helicopter over a combat area should not be used as a pretext to worsen even more the conflict in Central America.

An official communique issued last night describes the action near the village of Jalapa, in the border department of Nueva Segovia, and calls attention to the fact that the United States and Honduras have issued contradictory versions of the incident.

The Tegucigalpa version states that a Honduran Armed Forces helicopter has been downed by the Sandinist Army in the Cifuentes area, which borders on the Nicaraguan municipality of Jalapa. It states that the pilot died and six passengers were wounded.

The second version was given by the Pentagon in Washington, stating that a helicopter participating in the "Big Pine II" maneuvers had made a forced landing on a Honduran road near the Nicaraguan border.

Surprisingly, later in the day, the State Department called Nicaraguan Ambassador Antonio Harquin and gave him a verbal message.

A third contradictory version accuses the Sandinist Army of having attacked the helicopter both in the air and on land.

Television Commentary

FL121659 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1305 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Commentary by Roberto Angulo of Tele-Rebelde Television Network]

[Text] You must be aware of or have heard the report on the U.S. helicopter that has been shot down near the Nicaraguan-Honduran border. It is very important to note one point of this report and that you examine it along with us.

The official contradictions between Washington and Tegucigalpa in connection with this helicopter, a U.S. military helicopter which violated Nicaraguan territory to support counterrevolutionary groups -- there is no doubt about this -- must be pointed out.

With respect to this incident, we must report that there have been a number of contradictions in the United States and in Honduras. As has been stated, this incident could be used as an excuse to further aggravate the already critical situation in Central America.

While we were on the way here, a comrade in the office told me -- and he is correct -- that the U.S. helicopter shot down by the Nicaraguan people together with the border guards could become the USS Maine -- which was sunk by the North Americans here in Cuba and used as an excuse to enter the war against Spain -- or the incident they provoked in the Gulf of Tonkin to attack Vietnam, or the famous rescue operation to invade Grenada.

The situation is really serious, complicated, and must be examined. We are going to run two film clips on how some U.S. television networks have explained this situation. Let us look at them and listen to what is said.

[Filmclip of U.S. Cable News Network female and male announcers explaining the incident] [Begin unidentified female announcer] Managua has admitted its troops shot down a U.S. Army helicopter, killing pilot Jeffery Schwab. Nicaragua says it fired on the helicopter after if invaded Nicaraguan airspace, but the Pentagon denies that charge. [end recording]

[Begin unidentified male announcer] Nicaragua says its troops fired on the U.S. Army helicopter only after it violated Nicaraguan airspace. [end recording]

You have heard how the first female announcer -- we have run the filmclips as it is being reported by U.S. television newscasts -- admits the shooting down of the helicopter and adds that the Pentagon so far has denied it. However, the male announcer states that the helicopter was shot down but, in addition, says that Nicaragua has admitted having shot down the helicopter. [as heard]

There are several versions dealing with this situation. Washington, of course, admits that the helicopter was shot down, and the death of the pilot whose name was Jeffery Schwab, a U.S. citizen. It says that the pilot was killed on Honduran territory. Honduras says that the helicopter was shot down, but that the pilot was not a U.S. citizen, but a Honduran. You can see how these versions are twisted together. On the one side, it is reported the pilot was a North American and, on the other, that he was a Honduran. They have not reached agreement on this. The true facts are that a plot is being built around the shooting down of the helicopter which could be extremely complicated and could become the excuse the North Americans have been looking for, and -- as we all know -- the excuse to attack Nicaragua more directly.

The truth is that the helicopter had flown for 13 minutes over Nicaraguan territory, over the war zone -- we have to call it war zone because groups of counterrevolutionaries organized by the CIA have been operating there -- in Jalapa. That helicopter, if it violated Nicaraguan territory, then of course it must be fired upon, or over any other territory. As a result of the bullets shot at it, the helicopter lost altitude over Nicaraguan territory, where it was supporting a band of counterrevolutionaries, and fell down on Honduran territory, some 200 meters from the border with Nicaragua. The truth is that we must remain alert and follow the news very closely, examining it very carefully, because this could be the U.S. excuse to conduct a large-scale military operation against Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan ambassador to Washington was called by the State Department and given a verbal protest, it has been reported. This can be called extreme cynicism. They attack Nicaraguan territory, help counterrevolutionary groups, and conduct military operations there, and they have the nerve to call the ambassador and serve a protest because Nicaragua fired on the helicopter when it violated Nicaraguan territory and shot it down.

Within all these contradictions, we must insist on one aspect. This must not be used as an excuse for a larger scale military operation. I say larger scale because you well know that the CIA-supported bands are daily operating against the Nicaraguan people, both on the northern border -- where this incident occurred -- and on the southern border with Costa Rica.

I suggest that you continue to follow the news dealing with this incident very closely because it could have repercussions. It could have unforeseeable consequences. The United States cannot use this as an excuse, because we are well aware of those excuses, especially in this area of the world. We knew about them when they occurred in Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Mexico -- when it was attacked and all the territory that today is known as the southern part of the United States was taken from Mexico. This also happened in Vietnam, in fact everywhere the United States seeks an excuse for larger military operations.

You even observed how U.S. television reports contradictions, different versions. At the beginning we said there were three versions: no, there are more and none of them coincide. Honduras says the pilot was Honduran and the United States says he was North American. The truth is that we have to follow this very closely.

COMMENTATORS DISCUSS KISSINGER COMMISSION REPORT

FL121645 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1245 GMT 12 Jan 84

["International Commentary" by Irma Caceres of the PRENSA LATINA staff and television commentator Pedro Ventura, during the "Revista de la Manana" program -- live]

[Text] [Ventura] As you already know, the so-called Kissinger commission, named after its chairman, yesterday presented U.S. President Ronald Reagan its 132-page report containing its conclusions in regard to Central America and the measures the U.S. Administration must take to resolve, according to them, the Central American situation.

Today, we will discuss this topic with Comrade Irma Caceres. Please go ahead, Irma.

[Caceres] Yes, thank you. I believe that in today's commentary -- although our viewers already know the background of the problem because commentaries on this topic have been made on this program before -- we can say that everything, or almost everything, that had been predicted about this report was true.

In other words, this commission has been repeatedly cricitized. It had been said that the commission, organized by President Ronald Reagan in June, was just trying to justify, that is, was trying to give Reagan a reason to continue increasing the warmongering policy he is implementing in Central America and the Caribbean.

The commission's results, which were presented yesterday, did not result in anything new. Since it was a commission made up of the Republican and Democratic Party members, we note that the Republican member basically stated that only a military solution could solve the Central American crisis. Meanwhile, the Democrats also shared this view, but they pointed to the economic conditions, the economic crisis, and the serious situation this region of the continent is experiencing. This situation also affects other underdeveloped regions of the world.

What draws our attention is the fact that there are two basic concepts that we can now discuss: The United States is trying to justify the situation in Latin America by claiming that it is the result of a confrontation between the policy of the USSR, supported by Cuba on our continent, and that of the United States. In addition, they also refer to what they describe as the need to protect vital U.S. interests on the continent and a threat to U.S. national security.

These concepts, as you all know, are not new. They are not only applied in Central America but we've seen how the United States is applying this same idea in Europe by imposing new nuclear military measures in the area in order to protect its vital interests and its relations with its allies. We've also witnessed how this theory is applied in the Middle East and in Central America.

In other words, the Kissinger commission did not say anything new about these two aspects.

[Ventura] Irma, there is a matter you brought up that we must stress. It is the fact that everyone who has an objective view of U.S. policy expected this result.

Firstly, one must ask: Who is Kissinger? One must think back a few years. Kissinger, a former secretary of state, is one of the officials who had the greatest participation in the aggression against the Vietnamese people. Secondly, this Bipartisan Commission, made up of Republicans and Democrats, has a Republican majority, and the few Democrats included are very conservative. This is another important aspect of this commission.

Moreover, the commission was created by Reagan. As we said when it was created, and time has proven us right, the commission was only created to support Reagan's militaristic policy in Central America.

There are certain contradictions that have appeared in this commission, such as linking the aid to El Salvador to an improvement in human rights. However, it is only a detail which even Kissinger expressed reservations about.

Therefore, the Kissinger commission (?is in line with) the interests and the policy of the U.S. presidency and has come out in support of this policy.

It has been said that an overall plan has been presented. It will be in effect until 1990, and it offers approximately $24 billion in aid. Eight billion dollars are to be expended immediately; $400 million will be given in 1984 to support the $477 million which have already been allocated.

To a certain extent, this report admits that the Central American situation, from the material point of view, is critical. It is so evident that they have to admit it. They also try to justify their policy by saying that many people live under very miserable conditions.

In addition, they claim that Central America's problems are due to external reasons, not internal ones. They disregard the reality of the area. As you said, they claim that the Central American crisis is a result of the interventionist policy of the Soviet Union and Cuba and their expansion in Central America.

But no one is surprised about this Kissinger commission report.

[Caceres] Ventura, I think it is interesting to note that, as you stated, this $24-billion figure is allegedly what is needed in Central America to solve this problem. However, the truth is that this figure isn't that large. It sounds large, but it isn't when compared to the problems of this region and those of other underdeveloped regions of the world. It calls for an $8-billion aid package over 5 years. That sounds like a large amount, but it isn't because it [words indistinct] private investments. However, let's figure this out mathematically very quickly: $8 billion dollars distributed among the 20 million inhabitants in Central America over a period of 5 years would mean that it amounts to $400 per year. Consequently, the figure per capita would be $80 per year and approximately $7 per month per person.

Thus, we see that this is a ridiculous amount. I thought it would be interesting to break down these numbers. When we see a large amount we think that much money could solve something, but truly it can solve nothing. The needs of the peoples of Latin America and Central America cannot be solved with $7.

[Ventura] We must also note that Nicaragua is excluded from this aid. The commission has excluded Nicaragua from this aid. This aid is supposed to go to the other countries, except Nicaragua, which is dangerous and a possible aggressive power, so on and so forth. It is just the usual U.S. foreign policy claims about Nicaragua. But as you said, this figure is ridiculous and it does not solve the problems of Central America.

In addition, an important aspect is that the aid is not going to the Central American peoples directly. These funds are going to the private sector, private investments. These funds are going to further enrich private capitalists and are going to widen the gap between the rich and the poor in Central America. Therefore, they will not be received by the Central American peoples directly. They will end up in the hands of the peoples -- the bourgeoisie, the middle class -- who truly have the purchasing power and the economic power in Central America.

[Caceres] We've also seen other U.S. plans, not only of this administration, which have not been implemented after all. Some were never implemented. Such is the case of the Alliance for Progress, and we saw how that failed and solved no problems.

It must be noted that there has been much criticism in Latin America with regard to the results and the [word indistinct] of this commission. The Mexican press has been highly critical, noting that the language of the results of this great report by the commission is a language which is very similar to that used by the United States to justify its aggression against Vietnam.

We see that the United States is using this militaristic language, instead of resorting to dialogue, at a time when the United States needs to gain time to apply this policy in Latin America. This policy is being implemented at a time when other countries are making efforts, such as the case of the Contadora Group, to find a political or negotiated solution for this situation.

[Ventura] Well, Mexico was not the only one to criticize this policy. In Canada, the Canadian press and religious organizations have referred to this report as very utopian. According to them, it is not realistic and only aggravates the problems of Central America, thus facilitating Reagan's aggressive policy in Central America.

Well, our time is up. This is a truly dangerous moment in Central America. This is clearly seen with the incident of the U.S. helicopter which was downed yesterday when it was flying over Nicaraguan territory. These elements are truly dangerous and the Central American situation, with these U.S. stands and attitudes, is not being solved but is deteriorating further, and the danger of a direct aggression by the U.S. Government is growing. Well, Irma, thanks for coming here today.

Reagan Reaction Noted

FL130046 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jan 84

[Text] As an immediate result of the recommendations of the Bipartisan Committee on Central America headed by Henry Kissinger, President Ronald Reagan will ask Congress for a $140-million increase in military aid to the Salvadoran regime.

The Yankee President, as well as his special appointee, Henry Kissinger, is being urged to put into practice some of the Bipartisan Committee's recommendations, which have only served to support Washington's basic arguments about the Central American conflict.

SPANISH PAPER REPORTS ON CASTRO-MORAN TALKS

PM120955 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 8 Jan 84 p 15

[EFE dispatch: "Moran Holds Three Meetings With Fidel Castro in 24 Hours"]

[Text] Havana -- Cuban President Fidel Castro granted three meetings in 24 hours to Spanish Minister Fernando Moran, who concluded his 3-day official visit to Cuba yesterday. The two men held formal and informal talks, during which they discussed Galicia and Central America, underwater fishing, and Gutierrez Menoyo, among many issues. In fact, Castro attended the two dinners scheduled for Fernando Moran, Thursday and Friday, and also held a meeting with him in his office, which constitutes treatment far beyond what is usual for a senior foreign official.

The Spanish minister repeated to the Cuban leader the invitation to visit Spain extended by Adolfo Suarez, when he was prime minister, during a visit to Cuba in 1978. No date was specified, but Fidel Castro -- in Moran's words -- "expressed gratitude."

During their three meetings the Cuban leader and the Spanish minister conducted an extensive review of the international situation, with particular reference to the crisis in Central America, an issue that the Spanish minister also examined with his Cuban counterpart, Isidoro Malmierca, and with Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez.

Moran said that the Havana authorities have recently "toned down" their stances and are displaying greater "flexibility."

At the bilateral level Moran raised two outstanding matters with Fidel Castro: compensation for Spanish citizens whose property was expropriated following the revolution's triumph and the case of Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, of Spanish origin and a former commander of the Cuban revolution, who has been imprisoned since 1965 for attempting to set up a guerrilla front against the Fidel Castro government.

Promise of Payment

Concerning the former matter, Moran acknowledged that the valuation of this property differs substantially between the two sides, but he was confident of reaching an agreement to enable the payments to be made "because," he stressed, "Cuba is amenable to this." "It will be neither the "$300 million claimed by Spain nor the $30 million set by Cuba," Fernando Moran specified.

Moran also referred to the statements made by Castro to Spanish television, which have aroused adverse reactions in some Spanish political and journalistic circles because of his references to Spain's entry into the Atlantic alliance and the EEC. The minister told journalists: "I do not believe that those statements constitute interference in Spanish foreign policy... He has told me that he only expressed a desire, without attempting to exert any pressure."

"But I believe," the minister stated, "that being in NATO constitutes no insurmountable incompatibility either with Latin America or with the rest of the Third World... And trade relations with the Latin American countries depend above all on the evolution of the economic crisis."

After concluding his official visit to Cuba yesterday, Fernando Moran went on to Costa Rica, where he has a meeting scheduled with all the Spanish ambassadors in Central America and the Caribbean.

FERNANDEZ, MARJAI SIGN COOPERATION ACCORDS

FL121622 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The protocol of the 12th Session of the Cuban-Hungarian intergovernmental commission for economic cooperation was undersigned by Jose Ramon Fernandez and Jozsef Marjai, vice presidents of their respective Councils of Ministers.

The document contains accords about credit agreements, scientific-technical cooperation in the building and remodeling of the Icarus-type buses, and bilateral cooperation in other areas.

After the document signing, Jose Ramon Fernandez praised the climate of understanding in which negotiations were carried out and expressed hopes for world peace. Jozsef Marjai said cooperation between the two countries has had a qualitative change in times when imperialist aggression was increased and the economic crisis has reached disproportionate heights.

The Hungarian leader was grateful for the opportunity to speak with commander in chief Fidel Castro about the relationship of brotherhood between Cuba and Hungary.

GRANMA DIRECTOR VISITS BULGARIA FOR CONFERENCE

FL121930 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1512 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Jorge Enrique Mendoza, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and director of GRANMA, has visited the newspaper RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Sofia. Mendoza was received at this organ of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] by Yordan Yotov, chief editor and Politburo member, with whom he spoke of cooperation between the two newspapers.

The Cuban representative also met with the newspaper's journalists cooperative, where they discussed the Bulgarian situation as well as some of the problems found in Latin America.

Jorge Enrique Mendoza visited Bulgaria after participating in a conference of major communist party newspaper organizations and socialist workers held in Sofia some days before. [sentence as heard]

ARGENTINE WRITER WARNS OF FATE OF MISSING

PA112008 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] In Buenos Aires, Argentine writer Ernesto Sabato, who presides over the official commission charged with investigating the fate of the thousands of missing persons, has warned that it is highly probable that none of those persons is still alive. Sabato stressed that it is hoped to find some alive, but judging from the initial evidence collected, there is no doubt that the so-called dirty war against subversion was a task of extermination.

According to Sabato, over 400 cases of missing persons have been reported, and important testimony has been received from both active and retired military men who have appeared before the commission to provide evidence about the military's repressive excesses.

Meanwhile, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees today presented the commission the cases of 119 foreign citizens missing in Argentina. In addition, the Inter-American Human Rights Commission has presented a report including testimonies about 6,500 persons missing in Argentina since the military seized power in 1976.

Former President and military officer Reynaldo Bignone was detained yesterday and placed incommunicado in a military unit in Buenos Aires, in compliance with an order dictated by Federal Judge Carlos Oliveri. Oliveri is trying him for the 1976 disappearance of two drafted soldiers who were serving in the national military academy, which at the time was directed by Bignone.

LATEST GUERRILLA ACTIONS IN EL SALVADOR REPORTED

FL121337 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] FMLN rebels have killed six and wounded many soldiers of the Army's elite Atonal Battalion. Radio Farabundo Marti reported that the soldiers were killed when they tried to dislodge guerrillas from a stretch of the Coastal Highway between Primavera and El Transito cantons in Jucuaran, 130 km southeast of San Salvador.

The station also reported that guerrilla columns have attacked government positions in San Sebastian, 49 km east of San Salvador in San Vicente Department. The rebels have also sabotaged electric lines in San Rafael de los Cedros, 39 km from San Salvador in Cuscatlan Department, interrupting the energy supply for the country's eastern region.

NICARAGUAN COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES KILLED

PA111940 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] Two Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries were killed in a clash with Interior Ministry agents when they attempted to flee to Honduras. The counterrevolutionaries were Apolonio Selaya and Rodolfo Walter, chief and member of a band that this past week killed a Nicaraguan citizen who had accepted the Government Junta amnesty and left the ranks of the enemy.

The group killed Miskito citizen Francela Libalco, after trying to rape her.

NICARAGUA DISLODGES 600 'CONTRA' INVADERS

FL121404 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Last-minute reports say that the Sandinist People's Army [EPS], after intense fighting, has dislodged more than 600 counterrevolutionaries who had entered from Honduras through various border points. A communique from the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry stated that the EPS killed 57 invaders.

The most intense fighting took place in the border areas of Jalapa, Teotecacinte, (Cerro Nubarrones), Cerro Murupuchi, Portillo de Teotecacinte, Zacatera, and Playa Hermosa, all in Nueva Segovia Department.

The note from the Nicaraguan Defense Ministry denounces the complicity of the Honduran Armed Forces in this matter, specifically the moving of ammunitions and provisions by helicopters and planes. Seventeen runs by helicopters and military planes were counted, and the majority of the time they were violating Nicaraguan airspace.

NICARAGUA APPROVES ARTICLES OF PARTIES LAW

FL121316 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The Nicaraguan State Council has approved the first few articles of the political parties law as part of the country's institutionalization process in preparation for the elections that will be held in 1985.

Meanwhile, the Defense Ministry reported that, following fierce fighting, the Sandinist Armed Forces dislodged some counterrevolutionaries who entered Nicaragua from Honduras through various border areas.

In the meantime, all Potosi Port residents were evacuated to safe areas after air and sea attacks were carried out by CIA planes and speedboats, with bases in Honduras, for 6 consecutive days.

The Nicaraguan authorities decided to transfer 1,200 Potosi residents to the Cosiguina peninsula, in Nicaragua's northwestern extreme, where they can join an agricultural development plan in that region without the constant threat of aggressions.

UNIVERSITY LAW SPURS STUDENT PROTEST IN PERU

PA121310 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Peruvian presidential guards fired shots into the air to disperse thousands of students demonstrating against the recently decreed university law in front of the Presidential Palace. For more than 3 hours the police held the students back by force as they marched toward the Presidential Palace in Lima, but a large group reached the front of the building, where they requested that President Fernando Belaunde Terry receive them for a special hearing. The students said that the university law is prohibitive, elitist, and conservative, and that it is aimed at eliminating the state universities and benefitting the private ones.

Other reports state that an attack on high voltage towers, attributed to the Shining Path group, caused a blackout throughout Ica Department and in some areas in Lima.

BRIEFS

WOMEN LEADERS MEET -- Vilma Espin, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], has received Aida Gonzalez Martinez, a Mexican representative and member of the Central Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women at the United Nations, at the FMC headquarters. They discussed topics of interest to the two countries, particularly regarding the participation of women in the development of society. [Summary] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 84 FL]

PRD'S PENA GOMEZ URGES JORGE-MAJLUTA HARMONY

FL122122 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 7 Jan 84 p 1

[By Octavio Mata Vargas]

[Text] Dr Jose Franciso Pena Gomez yesterday explained the advisability of maintaining accord and harmony between President Salvador Jorge Blanco and Jacobo Majluta, as a way of preserving the unity between the party and the government.

The trustee of the National District and PRD [Dominican Revolutionary Party] leader said that accord between the president of the Republic and the president of the Senate is fundamental at this time.

The day before yesterday Dr Jorge Blanco said in Santiago that Majluta had exceeded his authority when he warned that it is illegal to assess an ad valorem tax on imported merchandise. The chief of state said that is an exclusive function of the judicial branch.

Reporters asked Dr Pena Gomez his opinion of the situation that has arisen between the president and the president of the Senate, both prominent members of the PRD, but Pena Gomez refused to take sides. Nevertheless, after pointing out that he did not want to meddle "in that matter," Dr Pena Gomez said that there should not be differences between President Jorge Blanco and Majluta. In justification of his silence, the PRD leader said that he did not want to encourage divisionism within his party.

Earlier, in a speech broadcast on radio and television, Dr Pena Gomez issued a fervent call to all members of the PRD for party unity. The trustee and PRD leader said that it is necessary to "return to the origional essence of the PRD -- austerity, humility, and simplicity." Pena Gomez said that these "cardinal virtues are being lost by our people at all levels. The virtues are being replaced by immoderate appetites for social climbing, false pride, vanity, and false greatness."

GRENADA

JAILED FORMER DEPUTY MINISTER ISSUES DEMANDS

FL130146 Bridgetown CANA in English 0016 GMT 13 Jan 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 12 (CANA) -- Detained former deputy defence minister, Lieutenant Colonel Awart Layne, has told Grenada's two-month-old caretaker government that its handling of a series of demands can determine whether or not there will be bloody clashes here with thousands of opponents "with military training and weapons at their disposal," prison sources reported today.

The warning, according to the sources, was made in a letter demanding the immediate removal of U.S. and Caribbean troops, which last October helped to unseat a military junta that Layne helped to install; the release of all political detainees; and provision of safe passage out of the country for those persons wishing to leave.

In the letter dated December 19, Layne warned head of the non-political interim administration, Nicholas Brathwaite, he would have to "bear the heavy and ultimate responsibility for the violence and bloodshed" if he did not take "decisive and speedy action" on the demands.

Layne, being held at the maximum security Richmond Hill prison, was one of the leaders of the October 19 coup that toppled Maurice Bishop's strife-torn left-wing People's Revolutionary Government (PRG). Bishop was executed by the military in the process.

According to the prison sources, Layne told Brathwaite, who has responsibility for security, it was only through a political solution to what he said was the crisis in Grenada that bloodshed could be avoided. The lieutenant colonel said he knew of thousands of people "out there with military training and weapons at their disposal and who are right now silent." But Layne also spoke of being interested in a peaceful solution to the "Crisis" in Grenada.

Copies of the letter sent to Brathwaite were also addressed to the secretaries general of the United Nations, the Organisation of American States (OAS), and the Commonwealth, as well as to the heads of government of Belize, the Bahamas, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago. These four Caribbean Community (Caricom) member countries and several members of the three organisations condemned the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada.

Among the demands made by Layne is the immediate removal of "all invading and occupation troops" from Grenada. The list of demands also includes a guarantee that there would be no job victimization and intimidation of those who choose to remain, compensation to Grenadians for loss of life and damage to property as a result of the invasion, and "the immediate restoration of citizenship to all Grenadians stripped of it." Layne also called for an end to what he said was intimidation of Grenadians who oppose the invasion, and reinstatement of "thousands" of Grenadians who he said were dismissed from their jobs because of their political persuasion.

Said Layne: "Mr Brathwaite, it must be clearly understood that if, rather than take decisive and speedy action on these issues, you, your colleagues, and (Governor General) Sir Paul Scoon choose to toe [the line] and champion the narrow neo-colonial interests of the Americans, then you would have to bear the heavy and ultimate responsibility for the violence and bloodshed that will result. Mr Brathwaite, there is still time, not much time, but there is still time to move off the road of further confrontation and violence and take the road of sense and reason."

He added: "While time remains, you should quickly think about it and make a choice, bearing in mind that your honesty and genuineness will be judged on the basis of this choice. We demand that this letter be put on the agenda of the next meeting of your so-called Advisory Council and that it be discussed with Sir Paul Scoon."

ENUMERATION FOR ELECTIONS POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH

FL122356 Bridgetown CANA in English 2330 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 12 (CANA) -- Grenada has deferred by a month the start of enumeration for crucial general elections to be held here in the latter half of this year, supervisor of elections Roy Chasteau said today.

The process, originally scheduled to start in the first week of February, has been put back to March, he said, because the government wants to introduce a computerised enumeration system for the poll, which would be the first in Grenada for eight years.

A computerised system for Grenada was one of the issues which Chasteau discussed this week with the head of the Barbados electoral office Denis Smith, who spent [words indistinct] here. According to Chasteau, on the advice of Smith the Grenada electoral office would be asking the provisional government here to repeal the existing legislation governing enumeration in favour of the computerised system. The modern system, he said, would eliminate the old practice of enumerators having to compile their lists by hand and was less subject to possible fraud. "We are scrapping that old process totally," he added.

Chasteau stated that he expected assistance in setting up the system from Britain which last week announced it was willing to help Grenada prepare for the poll. During last week's visit here by the British minister in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Baroness Young, one of the officials accompanying her made an initial promise of British assistance in the area.

The last general [?election] held in 1976, saw the Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) of ex-Prime Minister Eric Gairy winning nine of the 15 parliamentary seats. The other six went to a coalition of opposition groups led by lawyer Maurice Bishop, who headed the Marxist New Jewel Movement. Bishop was killed in an October Army coup last October which precipitated the U.S.-led invasion of the islands six days later. [sentence as received]

GOVERNMENT REMOVES HUNDREDS FROM PAYROLL

FL130156 Bridgetown CANA in English 2354 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jan 12 (CANA) -- The interim government sent home hundreds of temporary state employees last month because of the "grim state" of the island's economy, it was revealed today.

Government sources said the workers were hired by the deposed left-wing People's Revolutionary Government [PRG] without the permission of the island's Public Service Commission [PSC], which is responsible for the recruitment of civil service staff.

A letter dated December 23, 1983 from the director general of government finances said "a further directive will be issued relative to the established and temporary workers of those affected ministeries." It said: "Owing to the grim state of the public finances which have been compounded by the recent events resulting in the dislocation of certain government ministries and departments, permanent secretaries and heads of departments are hereby advised that all unestablished workers, that is, workers without letters of appointment from the Public Service Commission, would not be paid salaries after the month of December, 1983."

A second government circular added, "Indeed, the situation is so grim that continuation of the present unsustainable payroll would imply the eventual payments of public officers in government bonds or a drastic cut in their respective salaries."

"This situation has resulted from the massive overstaffing of the public service which led to the perpetual difficulties experienced by the previous administration to meet the monthly payroll," it said.

The circular to heads of departments and permanent secretaries indicated that the PSC "is currently considering applications by a number of persons who have been previously employed in the public service without formal letter of appointment."

"The services of those persons who do not meet the criteria for employment in the service, that is, the necessary entrance qualification, would have to be terminated to make place for those eligible persons who because of recent events have been displaced or dislocated," it said.

The circular went on: "Effective January, 1984, the Ministry of Finance will not be responsible for payment of the salary of any officer who has not been formally appointed by the Public Service Commission. Public officers need to be aware of the fact that the country is already heavily taxed and that there is evidently little or no scope for further taxation," it added.

JAMAICA

PACT WITH DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TO BE FINALIZED

FL172330 Bridgetown CANA in English 2309 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 12 (CANA) -- A trade and financial cooperation agreement between Jamaica and the Dominican Republic should be finalised early next month and be ready for signing in March when the Dominican president, Salvador Jorge Blanco, is to visit Kingston, the Jamaica Government said today.

A bilateral commission has been working on the agreement, which apart from trade and cooperation between the central banks of the two countries, will cover tourism, energy, and cultural exchanges. It grew out of a visit to Santo Domingo last September by Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga, hoping to expand this country's structured trading links in the Caribbean beyond the English-speaking grouping, the Caribbean Community and Common Market (Caricom).

Since those preliminary talks, the commission, which was given six months to complete its work, has been drafting the pact. Prime Minister Seaga and President Jorge Blanco yesterday reviewed its work in Quito, Ecuador, where they are attending a Latin American economic conference.

"...Differences of approach between the two nations on such questions as the lowering of tariffs on a range of exports were so narrow that final meetings of the commission could be held in the Dominican Republic and in Jamaica in the last week of January and the first week of February to finalise an agreement," a government statement said. The agreement was set for signing in March, it added, when Jorge Blanco is to pay a state visit to Jamaica.

Jamaica moved to establish a bilateral trade agreement with the Dominican Republic after its Caricom partners, at their summit last July, shelved Seaga's initiative to have the community enter a formal arrangement with the Spanish-speaking country.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CANADA'S PEPIN ARRIVES FOR TALKS WITH CHAMBERS

FL121953 Bridgetown CANA in English 1515 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, Jan 12 (CANA) -- Canada's Minister for External Relations Jean-Luc Pepin arrived here last night and is to meet today with Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister George Chambers, sources at the Canadian High Commission here said.

Pepin will spend two days here during which he will also have talks with External Affairs Minister Dr Basil Ince as well as ministers responsible for national security, trade, public utilities, and trade enterprises. A statement from the Ministry of Information said they will discuss the rehabilitation of Grenada, which was invaded by U.S. troops last October, as well as co-operation in a number of areas between Canada and Trinidad and Tobago.

Pepin, who has just ended a similar visit to Barbados, is due to fly home on Saturday.

STRIKE CONTINUES, WORKERS DEMAND NEW GOVERNMENT

FL121240 Hilversum International Service in English 0730 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The strikers at the Suralco Bauxite Company have not been intimidated by the military's show of strength and are continuing to make political demands. These are outlined in a list of 13 points which is currently circulating in the capital city, Paramaribo.

The strikers want the military regime to be replaced by a civilian government. Specifically they demand the abolition of the state of emergency and the curfew, the formation of a constitution, and free elections.

The presence of troops at the Suralco works has not resulted in a return to work, as was intended.

Troops Withdraw From Plant

FL121253 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Excerpt] Suriname's crippling bauxite workers' strike enters its 25th day today of the country's most crucial industry with no end in sight.

Yesterday Suriname's military ruler Lieutenant Colonel Deysi Bouterse dispatched about 80 soldiers to a U.S.-owned alumina plant to protect equipment and workers whom he said wanted to work but were pressured to stay out by strike leaders. The soldiers later withdrew after most employees stayed home.

Suralco Closes Indefinitely

FL122256 Bridgetown CANA in English 2130 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The Suriname Aluminum Company, Suralco, today decided to close indefinitely, as industrial unrest persisted in the Dutch-speaking South American republic. The move is a blow for Suriname, which gets three-quarters of its foreign exchange earnings from this sector.

Workers at Suralco had been on strike since last month over what they considered to be unusually large income tax deductions from their annual bonuses...but now there's another list of demands in circulation in Paramaribo. The strikers are calling among other things for an end to military rule, free elections, and introduction of a constitution.

Suriname's civilian government resigned last Monday over the issue.

Army leader Colonel Deysi Bouterse has been in charge in Suriname since a coup in February 1980.

BRAZIL

DELFIN GROUP LIQUIDATED, ASSETS ATTACHED

PY121306 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] The Interior Ministry has reiterated its commitment that the Delfin group employees will have a job. A large number of employees will keep their jobs while the liquidator appraises the group's holdings. The rest of the employees will be accommodated at various governmental agencies, according to Minister Mario Andreazza. In turn, the Central Bank president has branded the Delfin liquidation as routine. In the opinion of Celso Pastore, it was a decision that had to be made.

The Delfin group's liabilities are on the order of 308 billion cruzeiros, and they are to be covered by the group's assets as well as those of the directors and former administrators, according to the ruling of the 11th District Civil Court judge in Sao Paulo. Judge Luiz Roberto de Almeida ordered that the assets of all former directors and administrators of the 17 enterprises of the Delfin group be attached and that a police inquest be conducted into a crime committed against all the people.

COLOMBIA

ELN GUERRILLAS KILLED, WOUNDED IN HOSTAGE RESCUE

PA121512 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 12 Jan 84

[Text] Bogota -- The kidnappers of Lithuanian businessman Algis Mantas Disibiles, who was rescued last night by F-2 [secret police] units in Fontibon, northwest of Bogota, had demanded a $20-million ransom. Official sources say that initial evidence obtained at the rescue site suggests that the abductors are the same individuals who recently kidnapped Magistrate Jaime Betancur Cuartas.

In the F-2 units' action, led by Colonel Miguel Maza Marquez, three of the kidnappers were killed and six others were detained. The dead criminals have been identified as Jose Miguel Gonzalez, apparently the leader of the group; Fabio Montenegro Gavilo, and [name indistinct], who offered resistance to the secret police. The detainees include: Victor Obarrio Camargo, Jose German Bonilla, Jose Apolinar Sanchez, and Luis Ricardo Morales Munoz, all of whom were members of a cell of the Army of National Liberation [ELN] which for days held President Belisario Betancur's brother hostage.

GUYANA

MERGER OF GNA, CHRONICLE NEWSPAPER ANNOUNCED

FL091149 Bridgetown CANA in English 1822 GMT 7 Jan 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 7 (CANA) -- The Guyana Government has announced the merger of two of its information arms -- the GUYANA NEWS AGENCY (GNA) and THE CHRONICLE newspaper. Full details of the merger had not been worked out, Information Minister Yvonne Harewood Benn said, but the move was taken to "make more use of the available resources."

GNA was set up in January 1981 after the government discontinued the service of the Barbados-based CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY (CANA).

Minister Benn announced the appointment of GNA head Courtney Gibson to be general manager of the Guyana National Newspapers Limited (GNNL, publishers of THE CHRONICLE.) Gibson replaces Ron Phillips, who failed to return to his job after a vacation in the United States.

GNNL employs 135 people and the GNA 21.

PANAMA

IMMOLATED MAN TO BE DECLARED NATIONAL MARTYR

PA121435 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Jan 84 p 1 A

[Report by Vladimir Sandoval]

[Text] A National Legislation Council source told LA PRENSA yesterday that the Council will today declare Rolando Alberto Perez Palomino a national martyr. Perez Palomino is the Panamanian citizen who immolated himself Tuesday in front of the U.S. Embassy to protest the U.S. Government's violations of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties and its intervention in Central America.

Meanwhile, several leftist groups that have been warning against U.S. violations of these pacts since the canal treaties were signed have scheduled a march to the U.S. Embassy today, where a meeting will be held to demand a prompt U.S. statement on this issue.

Perez Palomino, whose political or party affiliation is not known and who reportedly was a member of the Victoriano Lorenzo Brigade, which participated in the struggle to overthrow Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza in 1979, died early yesterday at the Santo Tomas Hospital. Shortly before his death, he said: "I love my people," and "Long live 9 January."

The remains of the 27-year-old man, who received third degree burns over almost his entire body, will be buried today.

After pouring gas on his body and setting fire to it, Perez Palomino ran into the U.S. Embassy gardens breaking through security.

This is the second case of a Panamanian immolating himself in front of a U.S. Embassy to protest the Torrijos-Carter Treaties. In 1977 Leopoldo Aragon Escalona immolated himself in front of the U.S. Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden to protest the signing of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties.